

Thursday 9 February, page 7: CRICKET

The special general meeting of the County Cricket Council was held yesterday at Lord's. There were present Captain W E Denison (president of the Nottingham County Club), Mr W H C Oates (Nottinghamshire), Dr W G Grace (Gloucestershire), the Hon W M Jervis (Derbyshire), Mr Montagu Turner (Sussex), Messrs C W Alcock and J Shuter (Surrey), Mr George Marsham (Kent), Mr S H Swire (Lancashire), Messrs M J Ellison and J B Wostinholm (Yorkshire), Messrs P M Thornton and A J Webbe (Middlesex), Messrs T Burdett and H T Arnall-Thompson (Leicestershire), Mr H M Anderton (Somerset), Mr A H Heath (Staffordshire), Mr H W Bainbridge (Warwickshire), Mr M P Betts (Essex), Mr W B Thornber (Cheshire), Mr C Pigg (Hertfordshire) and Mr H K Grierson (Hampshire).

Mr A J WEBBE (honorary secretary) said he regretted to inform the meeting of the inability of Lord Harris to attend. Mr M J Ellison (Yorkshire) was then voted to the chair.

Mr MARSHAM proposed that the chairman and honorary secretary and treasurer should be ex officio members of the council. This was seconded by Mr BETTS.

CAPTAIN W E DENISON said he did not quite understand what the meeting intended to do. It was not a cricket council, but a county cricket council. He maintained that each county should only have one vote. To give votes to ex officio officers would be to give too great a preponderance to any one county.

The motion was also opposed by Mr P M THORNTON, and when put to the meeting was negatived by a large majority.

DR GRACE'S resolution stood next on the agenda paper. It was as follows: - "That all county matches shall commence at 12 noon on the first day, and on the second a third days play shall commence at 11 a.m., and that this rule shall be strictly enforced." Dr Grace thought that if this rule were assed it would prevent many drawn matches, which had been so numerous in the past.

Mr OATES seconded the motion, which he was sure would bring about a great improvement in the playing out of matches. It was much better than the suggestion made some time ago as to leaving the time for the drawing of stumps to the discretion of umpires.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr A H HEATH rose to move the following: - "That arrangements shall be made on county cricket grounds to enable boundary hits to be run out." He was afraid his county was little known as a cricket county, and their opinion would have little weight with the meeting. Staffordshire, however, was strongly of opinion that something should be done in the matter of boundary hits, and he proposed to do this by means of nets. If this were done it would considerably assist the bowlers, and the play would be much more interesting to spectators. There were grounds where all hits might be run out without any difficulty; where the grounds were not large enough, the matter might be met in the manner he proposed.

Dr GRACE seconded the motion, and said he used to get many more runs when most hits were run out.

Mr WEBBE said there were objections to this theory which he thought made it altogether impracticable. Circumstances had altered since the day to which Dr Grace referred. Grounds are not so open now as they were then. Besides this, it would give the man who “slogged” the advantage to the detriment of the batsman who played sound cricket and got his runs by hits along the ground. The expense was also to be considered, for there were several clubs who had no real county ground. Another reason was the consideration of the spectators, whose ranks many of those present would soon be joining. He himself should not enjoy the game watching it through rails or nets.

CAPTAIN DENISON mentioned that if nets were used a snick would be more valuable than, say, a fine cut or drive. The greatest scores ever made were obtained on open grounds. His own experience was that nothing tended to demoralize the field more than a long score, and running out all hits would this give the batsman an advantage.

Mr WOSTINHOLM opposed the resolution, which was lost by a large majority.

Mr ELLISON then moved – “That the attention of the MCC be called to the unsatisfactory effect of law 24, and to recommend that it shall be so altered as to secure that a batsman shall be out ‘if with any part of his person, being in a straight line from wicket to wicket, he stop the ball, which, in the opinion of the umpire, would have hit the wicket.’”

He said that when the rule as it at present stood was originally framed no such thing was known as a batsman wilfully obstructing his wicket. The rule answered its purpose when underhand bowling was in vogue, but when round-arm bowling was introduced its effect was lost. Felix took up the question some considerable time ago with the idea of raising an agitation for the amendment of the law. In this he failed. There was a very strong feeling in Yorkshire against the practice of deliberately obstructing the wicket, and the county committee through him now brought forward the motion.

Mr SWIRE said he had been instructed by the Lancashire committee to second it.

Mr P M THORNTON said that Middlesex would support through resolution from Yorkshire, but they could scarcely understand the words, “cross the wicket,” of Mr Webbe’s proposition, which they would hear later on. Mr V E Walker had sent him the following suggestion to read to the meeting: - “Or if he stop any ball with any part of his person which is in a straight line between wicket and wicket, or if he cross the wicket and stop any ball which would, in the opinion of the umpire at the bowler’s wicket, have hit the striker’s wicket.”

CAPTAIN DENISON rose to a point of order. He wished to know whether discussion was not useless, as they could not lay down laws or alter rules of cricket. The only body which had power to do that was the Marylebone Club.

Mr W H C OATES said he was requested by the Notts committee not to vote either way, as they desired to leave the question to the Marylebone Club.

Mr SHUTER said he could not support Mr Ellison’s motion, but thought Mr Webbe’s might be improved upon.

Mr WEBBE stated that his reason for bringing forward his resolution was because he thought Mr Ellison's went too far and could not be carried out. He read an extract from a letter he had received from Lord Harris, in which he said, "If I could be present I should support Mr Ellison's proposal in the strongest terms. I am not the least afraid of giving the bowler too good a chance, for I believe that the more probability there is of matches being finished, the more popular the game will be for the public; and I prefer his proposal to yours because I think it leaves less to the umpire's individual judgment."

Mr SHUTER asked whether the meeting, representing as it did, the counties, should not formulate some idea so that the MCC might know their opinion on the subject.

On being put to the vote, Mr Ellison's resolution was carried by 11 counties (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Sussex, Kent, Staffordshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Middlesex, Somersetshire and Hertfordshire) to three (Surrey, Warwickshire and Essex). Notts, Gloucestershire and Hampshire refrained from voting.

Mr WEBBE then withdrew the motion of which he had given notice. It was as follows – "Or should he wilfully cross the wicket and defend it with his person."

It was resolved to submit a copy of Mr Ellison's motion to the Marylebone Club.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting.

THE MARYLEBONE CLUB

At yesterday's special meeting of the MCC, held in the pavilion at Lord's, the resolution proposed by Mr J M Heathcote and seconded by the Hon A Lyttelton, "That the gold and silver prizes now offered for annual competition by the MCC to its members be thrown open to all gentlemen amateur tennis players, under conditions to be approved by the committee," could not be considered, it being ruled out of order. The other business comprised the increase of the entrance fee and the request to the committee to elect a limited number of life members.

Tuesday 27 March, page 10: CRICKET

THE LEG-BEFORE-WICKET QUESTION: DECISION OF THE MARYLEBONE CLUB

At the special general meeting of the County Cricket Council it will be remembered that the following resolution was passed – “That the attention of the MCC be called to the unsatisfactory effect of law 24, and to recommend that it shall be so altered as to secure that a batsman shall be out ‘If with any part of his person, being in a straight line between wicket and wicket, he stop the ball which, in the opinion of the umpire, would have hit the wicket.’”

This was submitted by Mr A J Webbe, the hon. sec. of the Council, to the MCC Committee, who decided “That a sub-committee be appointed to consider and report to the General Committee whether any undue advantage rests with the batsman or with the bowler under the existing laws of cricket, and, if so, what steps should be taken to remedy this defect.” The sub-committee were – Lord Bessborough, Lord Lyttelton, Messrs C E Boyle, W E Denison, A W Ridley, V E Walker and A J Webbe, with the treasurer and secretary of the MCC.

The outcome of the sub-committee’s deliberations has been that the committee of the MCC have declined to alter the existing law, and the following letter has been received by Mr Webbe giving their decision: -

“Lord’s, March 26, 1888.

“My dear Webbe, - I am desired by the Committee of the MCC to inform you, as secretary of the Cricket Council, that, after the most careful consideration, they are not at present prepared to suggest any alteration in law xxiv of cricket.

“Believe me, yours sincerely,
“A J Webbe, Esq. “HENRY PERKINS.”

Saturday March 31, page 12: THE COMING SEASON

A further visit of the Australians will form a conspicuous feature of cricket in 1888. Although only one season has elapsed since they were here, the prospect of again witnessing the colonial play is welcome. Their matches will not interfere either with those of the Marylebone Club or of the counties. The fixtures have been so ingeniously dovetailed as to obtrude only in a very slight degree on home cricket.

Seven of the team have previously visited England – viz., Messrs P S M'Donnell, S P Jones, A C Bannerman, H F Boyle, J M'C Blackham, A H Jarvis and G J Bonnor. Mr W Midwinter was at one time among the intending visitors; but his place will be taken by Mr J Worrall. This gentleman, and Messrs C T B Turner, J J Ferris, J Edwards, H Trott and J J Lyons, form the new element in the team.

The side is reputed to be strong in batting, while the deliveries of Messrs Turner and Ferris in particular have been so effective in the colonies as to invest the prospect of witnessing their bowling with great interest. Their first engagement is with Surrey, after which they meet all the other important counties. Three matches against representative England teams will be played – viz., at Lord's, the Oval and Manchester. Besides their engagement with Marylebone, they will meet also distinct teams of Gentlemen and Players. They will visit both Oxford and Cambridge and contest the University elevens. The three previous teams have engaged in matches against Cambridge Past and Present; this year there will, in addition, be a similar fixture with Oxford.

The Marylebone Club's programme is as wide in its range as ever. From the opening day at Lord's there is an unbroken series of matches, while the leading club will pay those visits to our public schools and elsewhere which have so greatly fostered the game. Many of the prominent counties will appear at Lord's, and the Universities have home and home matches with Marylebone. Four dates are set apart for the Australians, on which occasions they meet England, Marylebone, Middlesex and the Gentlemen. What are recognized as the fashionable matches have been played in the last two seasons in the same week. This plan will be departed from. Oxford and Cambridge meet on the first Monday in July, while Eton and Harrow play on the Friday and Saturday of the following week.

The ground itself at Lord's has been further extended by the inclusion of Henderson's Nursery. This was acquired at a cost of £18,500. During the winter it has been levelled, and is flush with the Wellington-road, Lord's now extending over rather more than 12 acres.

At Oxford, Mr W Rashleigh, of Brasenose, succeeds Mr J H Brain in the captaincy. There are also of last year's eleven Messrs H W Forster, H Philipson, F H Gresson and E A Nepean. Besides these the Dark Blues will have Mr A H J Cochrane, who was prevented from taking part in the inter-University match last year by an accident, and probably Lord George Scott will be in residence. For the rest of the team, Messrs C Wreford-Brown, A E Watson and G M Jones among the Seniors, and Messrs G L Wilson, L D Llewelyn and H Coventry, of the Freshmen, seem to be the most likely competitors. In addition to the usual trial matches, they again play Marylebone and Lancashire twice and Surrey once. Their other contests are with the Australians and the Gentlemen of England.

Mr C D Buxton, of Trinity, last season's hon. secretary, will captain Cambridge in place of Mr F Marchant. The following are also available from last year's team: - Messrs P Thomas, L Martineau, W C Bridgeman, H Hale, E Crawley and F G J Ford. Mr G Kemp, who played in 1886, but was

unable through indisposition to participate in last year's contest, will be in residence. There are some promising Freshmen in Messrs R C Gosling, C P Foley, T W Brand, G M'Gregor, A Martineau, G Cottrell and Henfrey. There are also many likely Seniors – notably Ms F Meyrick-Jones, H Mordaunt, H Orr and C A Trouncer. Their match list comprises two with Marylebone and one with the Australians, England, Gentlemen of England, Yorkshire, Surrey and Sussex.

Of the counties, Surrey have all their powerful team of last year at their disposal – viz., Messrs J Shuter, W W Read and K J Key, with Lohmann, Maurice Read, Beaumont, Abel, Bowley, Jones, Henderson and Wood. Mr W E Roller, who could only play in a portion of the matches, has been abroad and has returned in good health; he will be available for most of the engagements. Both the Reads have been doing well in the colonies, where the bowling of Lohmann and Beaumont (especially that of the former) has been very effective. Various improvements have been effected at the Oval, and the practice ground, used in the winter for football, has been returfed.

The programme opens with a match which will soon test the form of the eleven – viz., against the Australians. Both the University teams will visit the Oval, where there will be three other Australian matches – the return with Surrey, a contest with England and one with the Players. They have home and home matches with Lancashire, Nottinghamshire, Middlesex, Yorkshire, Sussex, Kent, Gloucestershire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Essex and Hampshire. The “Club and Ground” also engage in a large number of games.

Middlesex will continue to play their matches at Lord's. Mr A J Webbe will again captain the eleven, and all those who played last season have promised their services – viz., Messrs T C O'Brien, S W Scott, A E Stoddart, J G Walker, G F Vernon, P J de Paravicini, J Robertson and F T Welman, with the professionals J E West, Burton and Dunkley. Messrs A P Lucas, F G J Ford, E H Buckland and E A Nepean will also help their county as often as possible. Should there be any good colts, they will, of course, receive a trial. In addition to the home and home matches with Surrey, Kent, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Gloucestershire, the matches with Lancashire, which have lapsed since 1882, will be renewed. On their return journey from Sheffield in the August Bank Holiday week they will stop at Derby and engage the county, but there will be no return match.

They meet the Australians in June at Lord's. Beyond the matches alluded to with Middlesex, there will be little alteration in the county programme of Lancashire. The Australians appear on three occasions at the Old Trafford Ground, meeting Lancashire in May and the North of England in June; on the last days of August the third of the England v Australia matches will be played there. The eleven will be much the same as last season – Messrs A N Hornby, J Eccles, G Jowett and O P Lancashire, with F Sugg, Briggs, Yates, Barlow, Watson, Pilling and Robinson.

Nottinghamshire, as usual, open their season on Easter Monday with the Colts' match. Fifty-five young players sent in their claim, thus showing no falling off in the interest taken in the game. Alfred Shaw captains these, among whom are three or four promising players. At present, however, there is no fixed idea of engaging new men. If Mr C W Wright, the well-known Light Blue, should be in form, he may be found in the eleven. T J Buckland, a Sutton-in-Ashfield man, in the opinion of many, ought to be tried. There are plenty of good men in the county, no doubt, but the question remains how far they will develop into first-class cricketers. Shrewsbury's decision to stay in Australia during the summer will seriously weaken the batting of the eleven, who in the first county match will probably comprise Messrs C W Wright, H B Daft and J A Dixon, with Barnes, Flowers, Gunn, Scotton, Attewell, Shacklock, Sherwin and Richardson.

The Trent-bridge Ground has had every attention during the winter, and first-class wickets may be expected. They meet the Australians twice, and play home and home matches with Surrey, Sussex, Middlesex, Gloucestershire, Lancashire, Kent and Yorkshire, and their customary match with Marylebone. A trial of Nottinghamshire Colts against Yorkshire Colts will also take place at Bramall-lane, Sheffield.

Yorkshire send their eleven to Lord's to play Marylebone, which forms the first match in their programme. This includes three fixtures with the Australians, at Sheffield, Bradford and Huddersfield. The Colonials, indeed, have five engagements in the "County of Acres," the other two being at Scarborough during the Festival and at Harrogate against an England eleven. The home matches are well distributed over the county – viz., Sussex, Lancashire, Nottinghamshire and Middlesex at Sheffield, Kent and Leicestershire at Huddersfield, Surrey, Derbyshire and Cheshire at Bradford, and Gloucestershire and Warwickshire at Halifax.

It is not yet announced whether Lord Hawke, who returned from Australia owing to the death of his father, will again captain the eleven. Bates, who was a member of Mr G F Vernon's team in Australia, returned home owing to a serious injury received in the right eye while practising. He has had the attention of a celebrated oculist, and Bates, who in outward appearance looks well, says himself that his sight has considerably improved since his arrival in England.

The western county, Gloucestershire, are making rapid strides with their new ground at Ashley-hill, a suburb of Bristol, in the arrangements of which Dr W G Grace has been busy. No matches, however, will be played there during the ensuing season. Dr E M, the first of the Graces, writes that he hopes to struggle through another season, although he will be 47 before the year is out. Dr W G Grace is very keen, and the eleven will be about as usual. Roberts, who bowled well last season, will probably help a great deal. There are about 40 men from whom to choose the last four of the eleven. But they are all most medium performers in first-class cricket. The county play home and home matches with Surrey, Sussex, Kent, Lancashire, Middlesex, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire. They meet the Australians twice, at Clifton and Cheltenham. Last season they played one match with Somersetshire, which, however, is not included in this year's fixtures.

Although Kent possess so many good players, they will probably not be able to put their full strength into the field until the middle of July. It is not expected that Lord Harris will be able to captain the eleven oftener than he did last season; but Mr W H Patterson will probably play as early as the first county match, on Whit Monday, at Manchester. Of the amateurs there will be the Rev R T Thornton, Messrs L Wilson, A J Thornton, J N Tonge, F Marchant, S M Streatfeild, F S Ireland and A W Fulcher to select from, while later on Mr W Rashleigh, the captain of Oxford University, and Mr M C Kemp will be available. Mr F A Mackinnon, who did not play last year, is not likely to take part this. Among the professionals there are G G Hearne (who has quite recovered from his Nottinghamshire injury), F Hearne, A Hearne, Martin, Wootton and Pentecost. Walter Wright, who, it appears, had a business in Maidstone before any separation from Nottingham had been thought of, is also now qualified to play for Kent. It is questionable whether Mr Christopherson's arm will admit of his bowling much this year.

The interest in the Canterbury week will be enhanced by the richness of the programme, which is made up of the Australian match and the return with Lancashire. Mr W de Chair Baker, whose name is inseparable from the Kentish Festival, did not long survive the testimonial given him last season, and his absence from the St Lawrence Ground will be felt by a great many cricketers. Besides their engagement with Marylebone at Lord's, Kent have home and home encounters with Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Surrey, Middlesex, Gloucestershire, Sussex and Lancashire. The

matches are well varied in locale, there being no fewer than six grounds – Canterbury, Maidstone, Tonbridge, Gravesend, Beckenham and Blackheath.

Sussex open their season with a young players' match at Brighton early in May, which will be followed with the usual fixture at Lord's against Marylebone. In addition to their matches with Australia and Cambridge, Sussex have home and home engagements with Nottinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Surrey, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Kent and Hampshire. After their visit to Sheffield in June they journey further north to Sunderland and engage in a third days' match with Durham. The players at the disposal of the committee will probably include Messrs F Thomas, G L Wilson, W H Dudney, E J M'Cormick, G H Cotterill and F H Gresson, with Quaipe, Bean, Humphreys, Tester, H Philips and the brothers J and A Hide. Three of last year's eleven are in Australia – viz., Messrs C A Smith, G Brann and W Newham. It is rumoured that there is a probability of the two first-named joining the English football team now on their way to the colonies.

Good wickets are generally to be found at the Hove, and the ground is reported to be in capital order. Improvements have also been made in the pavilion. In is mentioned that Bean and Shorebridge (the latter a promising player) have been engaged as ground bowlers.

Derbyshire, in spite of their ill success last year, are by no means daunted. They have issued an excellent programme, which includes an Australian match and fixtures with Marylebone, Surrey, Middlesex, Yorkshire, Essex, Leicestershire and Lancashire. The ground is in good order and capital wickets may be expected. The pavilion has been moved, the turf relaid and new roads made at a cost of about £1,500, of which Mr Ragg has paid over £1,000. The debt of £1,200 which existed last year has been reduced to something like £150. The prospect, therefore, is hopeful. All last year's team are available, and in addition it is expected that Messrs S H Evershed and W S Eadie will play. There is also Mr Hindley, of North Derbyshire, who is considered a good bat. Hopkinson, of Chesterfield, Charlesworth, of Glossop, and Mr Cropper and Purdey, of Brimington, will probably be tried. Davidson, who was at the Oval last season, has been engaged this year at Lord's.

The Hampshire Eleven will be composed of many of the same players as last year; but they have lost the services of Mr E G Wynyard, who has gone abroad. Mr F E Lacey will again captain the team, and the following will doubtless play – Messrs S E Forster, H W Forster, H J Mordaunt, C E Currie, D A Steele, E O Powell, L G Bonham-Carter, C R Seymour &c.

Northamptonshire will have the same team available. Two new fast bowlers will probably be tried in Foxley and Knutton, and more amateurs will be played in future. The county ground is in capital order, the turf showing a decided improvement on the outsides of the ground, and the centre is in good condition. Appended is a list of the principal fixtures for the season . . .

Thursday 3 May, page 6: THE MARYLEBONE CLUB

Yesterday, in the pavilion at Lord's, the Marylebone Club held their 101st annual meeting, the Hon E Chandos-Leigh in the chair. There was an exceptionally large attendance of members, increasing Lord Harris, Lord Lyttelton, Lord Bessborough, Lord Hawke, Dr Jones, Captain Denison, Messrs Denzil Onslow, C E Boyle, I D Walker and A J Webbe.

The committee in the report congratulated the members on the flourishing condition of the club. The number of members who paid in 1887 was 3,018; life members, 20; abroad, 178 – total, 3,216. The number of matches played was 141, of which 85 were won, 29 lost and 27 drawn.

After protracted negotiations the club had acquired the freehold of Henderson's Nursery from the Clergy Orphan Corporation, and although the sum given (£18,500) – with the consequent necessary expenditure – amounted to a large total, the committee believed that the increased accommodation for practice and other purposes would justify the outlay. In addition to this, the freeholds of Nos. 17 and 21, Elm Tree-road, and the leasehold of number 43, St John's Wood-road, had also been purchased. The money for the purchase of the nursery was temporarily advanced by Mr Nicholson on terms favourable to the club, and the thanks of the club were due to him for his assistance.

The committee felt that it would be undesirable to saddle the club with so large a debt, and thought that a number (limited to 100) of life members at £100 each might be elected, and also that towards meeting the increased annual outlay arising from interest and addition expenditure the entrance fee might be raised to £5, and at a special general meeting on February 8 these propositions were carried. One hundred life members were accordingly elected, enabling the committee to pay Mr Nicholson £10,000.

Lord Lewisham, Messrs A W L Hemming, A W Ridley and A Rutter retired by rotation from the committee, and the Hon E Chandos-Leigh, Messrs A Appleby, E Rutter and J S Udal were duly nominated to fill the vacancies.

The Hon A Lyttelton and Mr J M Heathcote became the holders of the Gold and Silver Tennis Prizes respectively.

The list of matches for the season includes four against the Australian eleven and two against the Parsees.

The ground staff consists of Thomas Hearne, Farrands, John West, Flanagan, Clayton, Rylott, Wild, W Mycroft, G G Hearne, Wheeler, Sherwin, T Mycroft, W Hearn, Flowers, Price, Barnes, Gunn, Scotton, Hay, Fothergill, Attewell, Parnham, Burton, Pickett, Wootton, F Hearne, Davenport, Pentecost, Titchmarsh, Chatterton, J E West, Martin, Pougher, Rawlin, A Hearne, Carlin, Davidson and W J B West.

On February 13 last the committee passed the following resolution: - "That a sub-committee be appointed to consider and report to the general committee whether any due advantage rests with the batsman or with the bowler under the existing laws of cricket, and, if so, what steps should be taken to remedy this defect"; and the following gentlemen were accordingly appointed to serve upon the sub-committee: - Lord Bessborough, Lord Lyttelton, Hon S Ponsonby-Fane, Messrs C E Boyle, A W Ridley, W E Denison, V E Walker, A J Webbe and H Perkins.

They met several times, the main subject of their deliberations being the alteration of Law XXIV,

upon which the opinions of a number of leading umpires and cricketers were taken. Recognizing the great difficulties in the way of any extension in the law of leg before wicket, and the fact that the practice it was sought to prevent was adopted by a very limited number of cricketers, the committee have abstained, for the present at all events, from recommending any alteration of the existing law. They think that before any such important change is carried into effect ample opportunity for discussion should be given, and that practical unanimity among cricketers should be as far as possible arrived at. The committee have, however, passed the following resolution: -

“That the practice of deliberately defending the wicket with the person instead of the bat is contrary to the spirit of the game and inconsistent with strict fairness, and the MCC will discountenance and prevent this practice by every means in their power.”

The committee recommended that instructions be given to all umpires the club might employ that should they at any time see any batsman deliberately, in their opinion, defending his wicket with any part of his person, they should report the same to the committee, and they hope that, with the co-operation of the county authorities and cricketers generally, this step will be found adequate to prevent the evil which is complained of. If not, stronger measures may be necessary, but time will have to be given for more mature consideration, and the risk will be avoided of making an alteration in a most important law which experience may show cannot be maintained.

The report, having been put to the meeting, was adopted.

The meeting was then made special to consider the following alterations submitted by the committee in the laws of the game: -

- (1) That the over shall consist of five balls.
- (2) That a bowler shall be allowed to change end as often as he pleases, provided only that he does not bowl two overs consecutively in one innings.
- (3) That on the last day of a match, or if a one-day match at any time, the in-side shall be empowered to declare the innings at an end.

The Chairman said he proposed to take these **seriatim**.

Lord Harris said, in speaking on the first proposal, he would make his remarks as general as possible. It was known that the Marylebone Club exercised very great discretion when dealing with cricket matters, and their decisions were always accepted with satisfaction. Whether the club considered alterations affecting the play, or simply those of a verbal nature, precedent showed that they had been very careful not to make any changes without first of all taking the opinions of other cricketing bodies in this country and other parts of the world. He was in the fortunate position of having the support of an important member of the committee – Captain Denison – when he suggested that the club should hesitate before legislating. Captain Denison had distinctly stated that the Marylebone Club was the head of the cricket world, and that it only altered laws after due consideration, and after time had been given to other cricketing authorities to discuss them.

If a great evil existed then he was in favour of immediate action, but here there was no pressing necessity. With regard to the proposal to increase the number of balls to five, there was tradition attaching to the present over, and further, if they adopted the alteration, in a year or more there might be a proposal to increase the number to six. He believed that in Australia and America, six

balls were bowled to the over, but when the English representatives pointed out that the MCC had not sanctioned such a number, the Australians most courteously gave way. In view of the precedent of 1883 he thought it would be wise to defer action for the present.

Captain Denison, the president on the Notts County Club, said though he should be sorry to see these proposals not passed he thought that, as they affected the management of the game, the MCC might first of all take the opinion of the Australians, the counties and those who had the management of matches.

Lord Harris then moved - "To defer the consideration of the alteration of the laws proposed by the committee in order to obtain the opinion of the leading clubs in England and elsewhere." Lord Bessborough seconded the motion.

The Rev W E K Bedford understood that the great argument in favour of the alterations was the number of drawn games. He had carefully referred to other years and found that drawn matches were then quite as numerous as they now were.

Mr C E Boyle gave the meeting some statistics of the heavy scoring of last year, and thought the time was now ripe for a change.

Mr A J Webbe said a wet season would break down all the heavy scoring. Last year was exceptionally dry.

The Chairman put Lord Harris's motion, which was carried almost unanimously.

The members then separated.

Friday 4 May, page 10: THE SURREY COUNTY CLUB

There was an exceptionally large attendance of members at the annual general meeting held yesterday evening in the pavilion at Kennington Oval. Viscount Oxenbridge, the president of the club, occupied the chair.

In the report the committee congratulated the members on the brilliant and continuous success which attended the Surrey eleven during last summer. Not the least pleasing recollection of the season was the interest shown in the achievements of the county eleven by the general public. During the season 27 matches were played, of which 19 were won, five drawn and three lost. Lancashire and Middlesex were the only counties which beat Surrey; the third defeat was at the hands of the Oxford University.

Considerable additions have been made to the pavilion during the winter, including new Press and telegraph offices. According to the requirements of the Board of Works an addition staircase has been provided from the roof of the pavilion. The club now numbers over 2,000 members. The receipts from cricket and football matches amounted to upwards of £7,000.

Lord Oxenbridge, in moving the adoption of the report, congratulated the club on having regained the premier position among the counties. If the Local Government Bill became law Surrey would lose the services of some of their first players from the fact of London being made a county. They had had a meeting to consider what should be done in the matter. Dr Jones seconded the report, which was adopted unanimously. Viscount Oxenbridge was re-elected president, the Earl of Bessborough vice-president, and Mr W Cattley honorary treasurer for this year.

The following resolution was then proposed by Mr F Gale, and carried unanimously: - "That in the opinion of this meeting it is expedient that home and home matches should be made between the Surrey County Club and Ground (or any eleven approved by the committee of the Surrey Club) and elevens who have a ground of their own or village green in Surrey on which they play, and that such matches, out-and-home, shall, as regards the country elevens, be aided by a pecuniary grant not exceeding £5 for each match, and that a committee be appointed, consisting of gentlemen who reside in the outlying districts where the country clubs play, for the purpose of organizing the matches and selecting the districts from which the elevens shall be chosen."

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

THE MARYLEBONE CLUB

The Duke of Buccleuch has succeeded the Hon E Chandos-Leigh in the presidency of this club.

7 May: C I THORNTON'S XI v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3299.html)

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

So familiar have we become with Australian cricket that it scarcely seems credible that only ten years have elapsed since the first visit of an eleven to England. The team which Mr Gregory brought over in 1878 will always be memorable for the severe defeat they inflicted on Marylebone on the occasion of their first appearance at Lord's. From that time the reputation of Australian cricket became an established fact, and the impetus which their visits give to the national game in this country has been most marked.

The sixth team, which arrived a week ago, made their first appearance yesterday at Norbury-hall, the residence of Mr J W Hobbs, the Mayor of Croydon. The ground, which has only been laid out three years, was in capital order. The Australian team consists of Messrs P S M'Donnell (captain), A C Bannerman, G J Bonnor, S P Jones (New South Wales), J M'C Blackham, H F Boyle (Victoria) and A H Jarvis (South Australia), who have visited England with previous teams, and Messrs C T B Turner, J J Ferris (New South Wales), J D Edwards, H Trott, J Worrall (Victoria) and J J Lyons (South Australia). Messrs Boyle and Lyons stood out of yesterday's match.

Mr C I Thornton had got together a very strong side to oppose the Colonials, and the contest had aroused great interest. The weather was beautifully fine, and several thousand people assembled in the afternoon to witness the play. Within a few minutes of 12 o'clock the Australians appeared in the field, and were loudly cheered. The home side won the toss and were first represented by Dr W G Grace and Abel. Mr Turner opened the bowling to the former at the wicket nearest Norbury-hall, and Mr Ferris was deputed to bowl at the other end.

A single to Abel was the result of the first two overs, but in the third Dr Grace made two drives for two each. Subsequently he drove Mr Turner to the off for four, but having made 10 out of 16 he was given out leg-before to that bowler. The loss of this great batsman so early was by no means a promising start. Mr Radcliffe joined Abel, who began to hit freely. He cut Mr Ferris for four and three, and subsequently obtained two and three on the leg side. Twenty had been recorded after as many minutes' play. The first change in the bowling was tried at 31, when Mr Ferris handed the ball to Mr Trott. The run-getting at once slackened, but Abel soon again grew busy, and among other items he placed Mr Trott to square-leg for four. Mr Radcliffe now gave a sharp chance to Mr M'Donnell at slip, but directly afterwards Abel was well caught low down, at the wicket. Two for 39.

Mr W W Read joined Mr Radcliffe. He at once started hitting with vigour. He cut Mr Trott for four and hit him to square-leg for two. Later, by an on-drive for two, he brought 50 on the telegraph board. Mr Worrall now relieved Mr Trott, and after this change the scoring became much slower. Mr Radcliffe, however, enlivened matters by driving the new bowler to the off for four and three. This punishment caused Mr Ferris to resume the attack at 67. The runs were all coming from the end at which the changes had been tried, for at the other wicket only two singles were obtained in a dozen overs from Mr Turner. In the last-named's next over Mr W W Read was clean bowled by a shooter. Three for 69. Mr Wilson, who followed in, was quickly dismissed, the fourth ball sent him by Mr Turner taking his middle stump. Four for 69. Henderson came in, but did not seem at all at home with the first over sent to him by Mr Turner. Indeed, he played it very badly, and when Mr Radcliffe had scored a single he was easily taken at slip from the other bowler. Half the

wickets were now down for 70.

Mr Paravicini was next on the order. After giving a hard return chance to Mr Ferris he stayed while ten runs were slowly added, and was then caught at wicket. Mr Thornton was then missed at mid-off by Mr Bannerman from the first ball he received, but he then drove Mr Turner finely for four, and at luncheon the score stood at 94.

After the interval the bowlers were Messrs Turner and Ferris. The 100 was reached by an off-drive for two by Mr Radcliffe, who, however, was clean bowled in the same over. He had been in nearly two hours for his 34. Seven for 101. Bowley joined Mr Thornton, but when seven were added he was out leg before. Wootton and Mr Thornton made a most useful stand. The latter scored most of the runs, and among other items contributed several threes and one very fine drive for four. He was at length stumped at 144; his hits included two fours, six threes and three twos. Adams was bowled second ball, and the innings closed at 4 o'clock. Mr Edwards, who injured his hand shortly before 2 o'clock, had Mr Lyons to field for him during the remainder of the innings.

After the interval, Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman began the Australian batting. Wootton (pavilion end) and Bowley had charge of the bowling. From the last ball of the first over Mr M'Donnell, who had made a drive for two, had his leg stump disturbed. Mr Jones came in. Mr Bannerman obtained two and three by leg hits, while later Mr Jones cut Bowley splendidly for four. At 29 Dr Grace superseded the last-named, but his bowling was severely punished by Mr Jones. The latter made a drive for four in each of the Gloucestershire captain's first three overs, Bannerman meanwhile cutting Wootton to the boundary. The 50 went up at 25 minutes past 5 from a drive to the boundary by Mr Jones off Dr Grace. In the same over Mr Jones made two other drives for four each, but from the last ball he attempted to repeat his stroke and was caught by Mr Paravicini, fielding almost straight behind the bowler. He took the ball at the second attempt with his left hand; it was a splendid catch and was loudly applauded. Mr Jones's 45 included eight fours. Two for 61.

Mr Bonnor was bowled five runs later, and an addition of a single saw the dismissal of Mr Trott, caught at mid-off. Four for 67. Mr Blackham joined Mr Bannerman, who had been playing with great care. The score was slowly advanced to 80, when Mr Bannerman was clean bowled. He had been in an hour and a half for 18. Matters now went badly with the Colonials. Mr Turner skied the ball and was taken at slip, and Mr Blackham was bowled, both gentlemen leaving at 85. Messrs Jarvis and Worrall now became partners and kept up their wickets until the call of "time."

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 9 May, page 5)

The Australians have won their first match – a result by no means anticipated at the close of the opening day's play. There was a marked improvement in the fielding of both teams yesterday at Norbury-hall. Especially was this the case with the colonials, who favourably impressed those present during the second innings of Mr Thornton's team.

The two bowlers, Messrs Turner and Ferris, quite fulfilled the estimate formed of them. Mr Ferris, a left-hand bowler with a high delivery, bowling steadily and wood a good length; while Mr Turner, a fast bowler, has the enviable faculty of being able to vary his pace and of getting great break on the ball. The close of Monday had left the game rather in favour of the home side, who, having scored 144, has disposed of seven of their opponents for 89.

Messrs Jarvis and Worrall, the not outs with two each, resumed the Australian batting at five minutes past 12. Wootton (pavilion end) and Dr W G Grace were the bowlers. In the first over without the score having been increased, Mr Jarvis was well caught low down at slip, and eight wickets were lost. Mr Lyons gave very little trouble. He was nearly bowled and then, after Mr Worrall had obtained three by a leg hit, he obstructed his wicket. Mr Ferris, the last man, who bats left-handed, appeared with the total at 92. He quickly hit Wootton to leg for three, which brought the three figures on the board at 20 minutes past 12 amid loud applause.

The cricket now became very lively. Mr Ferris in the course of a few overs made three fine drives for four each, and at 133 Bowley was put on in lieu of Wootton. This alteration at once had the desired effect, as with his third ball Bowley dismissed Mr Ferris. The last wicket had put on 41 runs.

With an advantage of 11 runs Dr W G Grace and Abel opened the second innings of the Englishmen at 10 minutes past 1. Messrs Turner and Ferris, Norbury-hall end, had charge of the attack. In the second over Dr Grace nearly lost his wicket. He started for a run, but Abel refused to come, and Dr Grace only managed to get back home in consequence of Mr Ferris failing to take the return. Subsequently Dr Grace was cleverly stumped, and the first wicket fell with the score at 5 after 25 minutes' play. After luncheon runs came but slowly, and the innings terminated at 10 minutes past 4 for 63.

Requiring 75 for victory, the Colonials sent in Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman at 4.35. Wootton and Bowley (pavilion end) were the bowlers. The Australian captain was caught at slip when he had made 24. Ultimately, when four wickets had fallen, Mr Trott, by an off drive for two, won the match for the Australians by six wickets.

7 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3300.html)

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

Yesterday the Yorkshire Eleven made their annual appearance at headquarters against a strong Marylebone team. The weather was delightful; but the turf still bore evidence of the late rains. Lord Hawke will be unable to captain the team until the second week in June, and the County eleven included several who play for the first time at Lord's.

Marylebone were successful in the toss, and within a few minutes of noon Scotton and Gunn appeared at the wickets. Peel and Wade conducted the early bowling. The start was most unfortunate; a catch at wicket dismissed Gunn before a single run had been made, and Mr Key obstructed his wicket with the score at two only. Mr Wright joined Scotton, and for a few overs the prospect brightened. With the total at 17, Wade handed the ball to Mr Hart. The separation came from the other end, however, Mr Wright playing into the wicket-keeper's hands at 20. Three down.

G G Hearne, who came next, was missed in the long field when he had made three only. Profiting by this escape, he and Scotton, in spite of Wainwright and Usher displacing the previous bowlers, advanced the total to 49, when Scotton was bowled. Five runs later G G Hearne was driven on to his wicket. Flowers and Attewell were now together, and at luncheon 65 runs were recorded for half the wickets. After the interval Flowers was soon caught at mid-on. Six for 76. The four remaining batsmen only added 18, and the innings closed at 3.25 for 94.

Mr Hill and Hall began the Yorkshire batting, and 17 were steadily obtained, when the latter returned the ball. Little could be done with the bowling, especially that of A Hearne. The next three wickets only added seven. Mr Hill, who batted well for nearly half the runs gained by the side, was at length clean bowled. Wainwright went in fourth wicket down and saw the dismissal of the remainder of the side. Total, 60; time, 5.30.

With 34 runs in hand Marylebone went in a second time . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 9 May, page 5)

At the end of Monday's play each side had completed an innings, and Marylebone, with 34 runs to the good, had lost half their wickets for 50. Yesterday at Lord's they finished the innings for 126. Yorkshire offered a very feeble resistance, and Marylebone ultimately won by 103 runs.

10 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v C I THORNTON'S XI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3301.html)

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

An Eleven, which included several cricketers who have played for their University at Lord's, visited Cambridge yesterday, under the captaincy of Mr C I Thornton.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 May, page 15)

There was little improvement in the batting of the University eleven in this match at Cambridge yesterday.

10 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3302.html)

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

Marylebone placed a very powerful team in the field against Sussex yesterday at Lord's. The county, on the other hand, was not represented by its strongest eleven.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 May, page 15)

Sussex showed greatly improved form in their cricket all round yesterday at Lord's, gaining a most commendable victory by 125 runs.

11 May: WARWICKSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/105/105693.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 12 May, page 15)

At Edgbaston yesterday the Australians began the second match of their tour against Warwickshire. Messrs S P Jones and Edwards are not included in the eleven. The Colonials won the toss and went in, occupying the wickets the whole of the day for a total of 346, so that the runs averaged about seventy an hour.

This most creditable performance was chiefly due to the excellent efforts of Messrs Trott and Blackham. Mr Trott's stay at the wickets lasted three hours and 20 minutes. Mr Blackham batted with a greater amount of vigour, but with less precision. He should have been stumped early, and he gave a hard chance to mid-on when he had made 48, but on the whole his innings was a capital display of cricket. His chief items were ten fours, a three and ten twos, and he was batting an hour and 50 minutes. While together the batsmen mentioned put on 150 runs for the fourth wicket . . .

Day 2 (report from Monday 14 May, page 10)

As every one had expected, the Australians obtained a remarkably easy victory over the weak Warwickshire team opposed to them at Edgbaston on Friday and Saturday last. The subjoined score will show that the Australians won by an innings and 150 runs.

14 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarhive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3303.html)

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

Kent were unable to place anything approaching their representative eleven in the field at Lord's yesterday against Marylebone. The latter, on the other hand, had a team of more than average strength.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 May, page 6)

A great improvement was shown in the cricket in this match yesterday at Lord's. On the previous evening each side had concluded an innings, and Kent, in a minority of 21, had lost five wickets in their second innings for 113. Messrs Tonge and Streatfeild-Moore (not outs 12 and one) continued their batting. Burton and Davidson were the bowlers.

The score steadily travelled to 130, when the latter handed the ball to Dr W G Grace. Both batsmen soon fell victims to the change, and Wootton was taken at wicket. Eight for 144. Mr Christopherson and Martin batted steadily and caused the bowling to be again varied. No fewer than 39 were put on before Mr Christopherson was dismissed by a running catch at slip. Pentecost was clean bowled, and the innings closed for 193.

With 173 set Marylebone for victory there yet remained plenty of interest in the game. Mr Webbe and Dr Grace went in to the bowling of Wootton and Wright. Both batsmen soon grew busy. Though the bowling was changed six times, 82 were reached before the Gloucestershire captain, who had made several fine drives for four, was caught at extra mid-off. Mr O'Brien was soon bowled and Mr Webbe was run out. Four for 90.

The interval was now taken, after which Mr Wright went in with Mr Wynyard. Again the batting triumphed as, in spite of changes in the attack, 44 were put on before the latter was bowled. When Hearn joined Mr Wright 39 were still wanting. These were obtained without further mishap, and at 4.25 Marylebone had won the match by five wickets.

14 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3304.html)

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

The Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, was yesterday the scene of the first county match of the season. Sussex were still without several of their prominent amateurs, but the team was the same as that which gained so creditable a victory over Marylebone at Lord's last week.

Shrewsbury's stay in Australia deprived the home county of their valuable batsman. A trial was given to Buckland, a fast bowler from Sutton-in-Ashfield, a place which has furnished Nottinghamshire with so many good players.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 May, page 6)

Yesterday, at the Trent-bridge ground, the Nottinghamshire Eleven followed up the advantage they had gained on the opening day, and secured a brilliant victory. Overnight Sussex had completed their first venture for 97, and Notts had lost four wickets for 154.

Gunn and Mr Daft continued to play in excellent style, and had put on altogether 94 before Mr Daft was bowled. His chief hits were three fours, a three and six twos. Gunn subsequently returned the ball at 186 for a superb innings of 71, in which were seven fours, four threes and eight twos. Humphreys bowled effectively towards the close, but ultimately the total reached 240.

The Sussex batsmen only offered a very feeble resistance to the attacks of their opponents, and ultimately Notts won by an innings and 74 runs.

14 May: SURREY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3305.html)

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

With two victories to their credit the Australians yesterday entered on the first of the eight metropolitan engagements which are included in their tour. At one time during the day there must have been nearly 8,000 present at the Oval. Among the visitors were Prince Christian and Prince Albert Victor.

The Australians were batting the whole day. Surrey suffered from severe disadvantages. Two of their usual eleven – Mr W E Roller and Jones – are not sufficiently well to play. In addition to this, Lohmann and Maurice Read only landed at Plymouth on Sunday. The former, also, hurt his foot and could not play during the latter part of the day.

Surrey were beaten by the Australians in 1878 by five wickets, in 1882 by six wickets and in 1884 by eight wickets. As a set-off to this, Surrey won twice in 1886 – by three wickets and by an innings and 209 runs.

Just before noon the Australians, who had won the toss, sent in Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman. Lohmann started the bowling, his field forming a double crescent on the off-side: - Mr W W Read, point; Mr Shuter, cover-point; Beaumont, mid-off; Brockwell, extra mid-off; Abel, slip; Bowley, extra slip; Mr Key, third man; Henderson, mid-on; Maurice Read, long-field; and Wood, wicket-keeper. A single to each batsman resulted from the first over.

Bowley led the attack from the pavilion end, with his field disposed thus: - Mr W W Read, point; Mr Shuter, cover-point; Beaumont, mid-off; Abel, slip; Maurice Read, third man; Henderson, extra slip; Lohmann, short leg; Brockwell, long leg; Mr Key, mid-on; and Wood, wicket-keeper. Mr Bannerman secured a single and Mr M'Donnell a cut for two in the second over.

The run-getting then became very brisk, both batsmen playing with all their old confidence. Two cuts by each realized 16 runs, after which the fielding was so close that there were no big hits for some time. However, the score steadily reached 35, when the bowling underwent the first change – Beaumont superseding Bowley at the pavilion end. Another cut by each gentleman produced eight runs, so that at 44 a further variation in the attack was resorted to, Abel relieving Lohmann. Eight overs were sent down for six runs, and the 50 was signalled after as many minutes' play. Mr M'Donnell sent Abel to leg for four, and his companion obtained two and three by cuts.

For the next ten minutes the only item of note was a lucky four in the slips by the Australian captain. Bowley was put on at the gasometer end in lieu of Abel at 68, but the batsmen appeared thoroughly set. Several twos by drives advanced the figures to 78, when the first opportunity of separation presented itself. Mr Bannerman cut the ball and it went to Maurice Read at third man, who misfielded it. Meanwhile Mr M'Donnell had got to his partner's wicket and Mr Bannerman had not started. An easy chance offered of a run-out, but Read returned the ball so badly that not only was the batsman let off, but two overthrows were registered.

This was the sixth over from Henderson, who had relieved Beaumont at 59, and the former now gave way to Lohmann. In the last-named's second over and with his figures at 49, Mr M'Donnell gave a sharp chance to Mr Read at point. Profiting by his escape, the Australian captain, with a cut

for three, completed his 50 at 1.35. As runs were added steadily, Mr Walter Read went on with lobs at 95 for Bowley; but the separation was effected from the other end, as, after two singles had been added, Mr M'Donnell was clean bowled. He had played a splendid innings of 56, in which were five fours, two threes and eight twos. Thus the first wicket realized 97 runs.

Mr Jones came in, and just before luncheon the 100 was reached. Play was not resumed until five minutes to 3, when Mr W W Read and Lohmann were the bowlers. With the last ball of the former's first over Mr Bannerman was clean bowled. He had been in nearly two hours for his 43, which he had made without a fault. His chief hits were three fours, two threes and seven twos. Mr Bonnor made a very feeble display, and the score was only 104 when Lohmann bowled his off-stump out of the ground. Three down.

With Messrs Trott and Jones together runs were added steadily. The former, by a cut and a square-leg hit, obtained six runs, while the latter scored two and four by cuts from Mr Read. Bowley superseded the amateur at 120. In his first over Mr Jones cut him crisply for four; but in the third he had his off-stump bowled down. Four for 124. Mr Blackham came in and at once began to hit freely. He cut Bowley for four and secured three by a drive (one an overthrow), while Mr Trott drove Lohmann to the off-boundary. Mr Blackham was then taken at third man, and the fifth wicket fell at 146.

Mr Turner and Mr Trott now made a determined stand. The 150 went up at ten minutes to 4. Mr Turner cut Lohmann for four, while his companion scored three by a leg-hit. Beaumont now relieved Lohmann, who retired and had a substitute to field for him. Runs were now scored rapidly. Mr Trott cut Beaumont for two and played the same bowler to square-leg for four. Mr Walter Read was tried again at 166, but Mr Turner severely hit all the bowlers. He drove and cut Mr Read for four each, and placed the other bowler to the square-leg boundary. At 185 the bowling underwent a double change – Brockwell and Henderson for Mr Read and Beaumont. The alteration at once had the desired effect, for Mr Trott, in Henderson's second over, was bowled. During the partnership 46 runs had been added.

Mr Worrall joined Mr Turner, who scored two fours from Brockwell in one over by a cut and a leg-hit. Quickly afterwards, by a cut for four, he brought 200 on the telegraph board at half-past 4. Mr Turner continued to hit very finely. He drove Henderson for four and placed the other bowler to square-leg with a like result. Abel went on at 221 for Henderson, but the change did not stop the run-getting. Mr Worrall scored two fours – one from each end – and Mr Turner, by a cut to the boundary, completed his 50 at ten minutes to 5. When Mr Worrall had scored 12 he was missed by Mr Boyle (fielding as substitute) at mid-off. This mattered little, however, as Bowley having resumed at 238, he was clean bowled. Seven for 239.

An addition of six saw the dismissal of Mr Lyons, clean bowled; but with Messrs Ferris and Turner together runs were put on rapidly. The 250 was completed at ten minutes past 5, and so free was Mr Turner's hitting that 50 more were added in half an hour. By a straight drive for four he obtained his 100 at a quarter to 6, but directly afterwards he was given out – caught at wicket. He had only been in two hours, and the composition of his 103 gives an idea of the vigour with which he batted. His hits included 19 fours, two threes and four twos. Throughout his stay he did not make a mistake, and his innings was characterized by clean and well-timed hitting.

The last wicket gave further trouble. There were many more variations in the bowling during the 35 minutes that Messrs Boyle and Ferris were together. When the former was caught at slip 47 runs had been added, bringing the total of the innings to 363. Stumps were drawn for the day with the

fall of the last Australian wicket . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 16 May, page 6)

There were between 9,000 and 10,000 people present at the Oval yesterday to see the conclusion of this match. Play was resumed at 11.30, Surrey starting their innings against the total of 363. Mr Shuter and Abel were the early batsmen.

Mr Turner led off the bowling from the western wicket with his field thus: - Mr Trott, point; Mr M'Donnell, cover-point; Mr Worrall, mid-off; Mr Edwards (substitute for Mr Bannerman), extra mid-off; Mr Bonnor, slip; Mr Jones, third man; Mr Boyle, mid-on; Mr Lyons, long-on; Mr Ferris, short-leg; and Mr Blackham, wicket-keeper. Abel got the ball past Mr M'Donnell for two, which was the sole item in the over.

Mr Ferris bowled at the pavilion end, the disposition of his field being thus: - Mr Trott, point; Mr Lyons, cover-point; Mr Worrall, mid-off; Mr Edwards, extra mid-off; Mr Bonnor, long-off; Mr M'Donnell, slip; Mr Turner, third man; Mr Boyle, mid-on; Mr Jones, long-on; Mr Blackham, wicket-keeper. The second over proved a maiden; indeed, the bowlers kept an excellent length and with the fielding close the batsmen were unable to get the ball away except for singles.

In half an hour the figures had travelled to only 12, and then Mr Shuter tamely returned the ball. One wicket for a dozen runs was rather a gloomy outlook for the Englishmen; but with Mr Key and Abel together matters slightly improved. Abel cut Mr Turner finely for four, and Mr Key played the other bowler to leg for three. A few minutes later a confident appeal against Mr Key for leg before by Mr Turner was decided in favour of the batsman, who immediately cut that bowler for four. In the next over, however, Abel played on, and the second wicket fell at 27.

Mr Walter Read came in. He once hit Mr Ferris to leg for four, and later on Mr Key cut the same bowler to the boundary. Mr Read secured four by a lucky hit on the leg side, and his companion gained five (all run out) by a cut. An on-drive by Mr Key was the largest contribution for some time, but after an hour's play he 50 appeared on the telegraph board. Two runs later, however, Mr Key had his off stump bowled out of the ground, and Brockwell came in with the score at 52 for three wickets. Four overs were sent down for a couple of singles, when Mr Read enlivened matters by a good drive for four.

At 59 Brockwell was clean bowled, and Maurice Read went in. His start was successful, for the first ball sent him he played to square leg and obtained five (all run out). With the figures at 66 Mr W Read obstructed his wicket, and half the batsmen were out. While Henderson was in six runs were added in as many overs, and he was then clean bowled.

Afterwards affairs went very badly with the Surrey team. Maurice Read was cleverly caught low down at forward short leg at the same total, and the figures were unaltered when Lohmann was given out leg before. Eight were now down for 72, and the remaining batsmen gave very little trouble. Bowley and Wood each scored a three before the former returned the ball at 80. Beaumont came next, but after Wood had secured five (four by an overthrow) and four by a cut, the last-named was well caught low down at mid-on, and the innings ended at 1.25 for the meagre score of 89. Messrs Turner and Ferris bowled unchanged and quite sustained the reputation which had preceded them.

With a deficit of 274 Surrey went in a second time at 1.45. The same order was adhered to in the first innings. Mr Shuter and Abel began the task of rubbing off the arrears. Messrs Ferris and Turner were the bowlers. Abel played the latter to the on for three and, after a couple of maidens, he scored four by a drive. At 11 Abel was clean bowled, and with his dismissal the adjournment took place.

After the customary interval Mr Shuter and Key continued the home defence. The bowling was still intrusted to Messrs Ferris and Turner. A single was the result of the first two overs, but then Mr Key enlivened affairs by driving Mr Turner to the off boundary. He had previously cut the other bowler for three. However, at 35 the Surrey captain had his leg stump struck by a good ball from Mr Turner.

Mr Read joined Mr Key. The former played Mr Ferris to leg for three; but at 41 he was for the second time in the match out leg-before. A further misfortune befell Surrey directly afterwards, as without add Mr Key was bowled by a splendid ball which broke in from the off. Four for 41. When Wood came in the play was slow. Seven overs were sent down for a single, after which Wood drove Mr Ferris twice for three and Read secured four by a leg snick. At 3.35 the 50 was signalled. Then runs later Wood was cleverly caught by Trott, who took the ball high up with his left hand. Five for 60.

Lohmann, followed in, with Wood to run for him. Two drives for two each by Read and a leg hit for two by Lohmann were the only items for a long time. Subsequently Read sent Mr Ferris twice to the leg boundary. He continued to hit vigorously, and a very fine on-drive and a square-leg hit each produced four runs. This free hitting caused the bowling to be changed for the first time during the day, Mr Trott receiving the ball from Mr Ferris at 92. In the next over Read started for a run, but Wood refused, and Read failed to get back in time. While these batsmen were together there was some chance of Surrey making a stand, but with Read's dismissal the last hope seemed to disappear. Six for 92.

Henderson joined Lohmann, who by an off-drive scored four, and a cut by the former with a like result brought the three figures on the board at 4.20. Lohmann, when he had made 16, was missed by Mr Bonnor at slip, and profiting by his escape he hit Mr Turner to square-leg for four. Mr Jones superseded the last-named bowler at 108, but three runs later Lohmann was out leg-before at the other end. Seven for 111.

Henderson had his middle stump hit out of the ground at the same total, while a single later a left-handed catch high up at point dismissed Brockwell. Beaumont made a square-leg hit for four and an off-drive for two, but at 120 he was bowled middle stump and the innings closed, Surrey suffering defeat by an innings and 154 runs.

The ease with which the Australians have gained their third consecutive victory almost assures the success of the tour. It is curious to note that in both innings Mr Read and Lohmann were out leg-before.

17 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3306.html)

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

Yesterday the second of the University matches was begun at Cambridge. Rain fell steadily all the morning and delayed the start until within a few minutes of 4 o'clock. The Gentlemen won the toss and decided to go in on the wet wicket. Messrs Thornton and Webbe were their first representatives, while the Cambridge bowling was intrusted to Messrs Woods and Ford.

Each batsman scored a four, Mr Thornton by a drive and his partner by a cut, but with the figures at 11 Mr Webbe was taken at mid-on. The visitors were then dismissed rapidly by Mr Woods, who performed the "hat trick," and Mr Ford. Mr Thornton was the only batsman to offer any determined resistance. He, however, was missed twice – once by Mr Robinson when he had scored seven, and again by Mr Martineau with his figures at 26. Eventually his total reached 41; none of the others obtained double figures. The innings terminated, after an hour and a half's play, without the bowling having been changed.

Messrs Robinson and Crawley opened the home defence to the bowling of Messrs Hedley and Robertson. Mr Robinson, after being hit by the ball, was dismissed at 15, and Mr Trouncer, who followed in, was out at the same total. Messrs Crawley and Martineau then became partners and played out time . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 May, page 13)

Play began at 20 minutes to 12 yesterday. Messrs Crawley and Martineau (not outs 8 and 3) were opposed to Messrs Hedley and Robertson. Mr Thornton, whose hand was injured on the previous day, did not take part in the game, having a substitute in the field.

Mr Martineau was clean bowled, and Mr Buxton's stay proved brief and unproductive. Mr Ford's principal item was a leg hit for five prior to being bowled. Mr Crawley, who had shown great patience, having been in an hour and 35 minutes for 18, was secured at mid-off. Sixteen of Mr Wood's 19 runs were obtained by fours. The last wicket fell for 85.

The Gentlemen, six runs behind, sent in Messrs Webbe and Lucas to the bowling of Messrs Woods and Ford. Mr Lucas batted in his old style for 20. Mr de Paravicini went in fifth wicket down and was the last to leave. Mr Robinson, the not out, assisted him in putting on 34 for the tenth wicket. Total, 114.

Cambridge now required 109 to win. They started badly, losing Messrs Robinson, Crawley, Trouncer and Martineau for 18 runs. Messrs Buxton and Ford then became partners. Both hit brilliantly and, without making a mistake, they won the match by six wickets.

17 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3307.html)

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

It is anticipated that the Oxford Eleven will be exceptionally strong this season, and thus their match with the Australians had been looked forward to with more than ordinary interest. Much disappointment was naturally felt yesterday when the wet weather prevented a start being made until this morning.

Oxford will be represented by Lord George Scott (Christ Church); Messrs W Rashleigh (Brasenose), captain; F H Gresson (Oriel); E A Nepean (University); H Philipson (New); H W Forster (New); A H Cochrane (Hertford); G L Wilson (Hertford); H Bassett (St Catherine's); G Fowler (Oriel); and E T B Simpson (Pembroke).

Seven of these gentlemen have appeared at Lord's and all of them have excellent reputations. The new members of the team are the last four mentioned. In the trial matches that have taken place Mr Bassett has been remarkably successful as a bowler, and in this department Mr Fowler has also distinguished himself. Messrs Simpson and Wilson have good reputations as batsmen.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 May, page 13)

With the University men in full practice, the match against the Australians has been anticipated with great interest at Oxford and among cricketers generally. Unfortunately, the rains of Thursday precluded play and rendered the Christ Church ground, where the match is in progress, heavy.

It was decided not to start yesterday until half-past 12. Mr Bannerman, who is still suffering from lameness, and Mr Edwards are omitted from the Australian team, while that of the University includes four fresh players, Messrs G L Wilson, G Fowler, H Bassett and E T B Simpson.

Oxford were successful in the toss and decided on going in. Messrs Gresson and Simpson started the batting. Mr Turner and Mr Ferris led the attack. The start was not promising for the University, as when only seven runs were scored Mr Simpson had the ill fortune to be secured at point off his glove. Mr Wilson filled the vacancy, and Mr Gresson batted with confidence. He scored 16 out of 18, when he was dismissed by an easy catch at third man, and with the addition of a single Mr Wilson was clean bowled.

Messrs Rashleigh and Forster batted carefully, and the score advanced by easy stages to 32, when the latter was caught by Mr Trott. Lord George Scott hit the first ball he received into Mr Boyle's hands, the last two wickets being captured from successive deliveries of Mr Ferris. Mr Nepean joined Mr Rashleigh, and for some time the batting was in the ascendant. No separation was effected when the interval for luncheon arrived, the score being then 68 for half the wickets.

On resuming Mr Nepean gave a difficult chance to Mr Jones at mid-off when he had scored 16. With the total at 89 Mr Rashleigh's brilliant innings was closed through Mr Ferris tempting him to return the ball. He had gained 48 out of 82 scored while he was in, his score including a drive for five over the ring, five fours, two threes and five twos. Mr Nepean batted with care, but was eventually clean bowled. The last four wickets only added 13 runs, the innings closing shortly

before 4 o'clock for 102. The fielding of the Australians was quite up to the standard with which their name is associated, and the bowling was only once changed.

When the Australians went in the wicket played uncertainly, but Mr M'Donnell adopted the policy of free hitting with marked success. He received small assistance from Messrs Jones and Trott, but Messrs Bonnor and Blackham remained with him some time. The colonial wicket-keeper gave two chances before being bowled. Mr Turner was soon got rid of, but Mr Worrall batted carefully. With the latter dismissed, stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 21 May, page 7)

Play in the fourth match of the Australian tour was continued on Saturday at the Christ Church Ground, Oxford. A high wind prevailed, but fortunately the rain held off. At half 11 Mr M'Donnell (the not out with 88) was accompanied to the wickets by Mr Ferris. The bowling was intrusted to Messrs Bassett and Cochrane.

For a little while the batsmen hit freely, but when 22 had been put on, Mr Ferris ran himself out. Mr M'Donnell completed his 100 at noon. When he had made four more he gave an easy chance to Mr Rashleigh at mid-off. The Australian captain did not profit long by his mistake, however, as in the next over he cut the ball into the hands of point. His 105 was the result of finished batting, and occupied two hours and 50 minutes. Eight for 206. The last two batsmen were dismissed without scoring, and the innings closed for 208.

With 106 to make up, Oxford began their second innings at a quarter to 1. Messrs Gresson and Simpson went in, and Messrs Turner and Ferris began the bowling. The start was most disheartening, as in the opening over a catch at cover-point disposed of Mr Gresson. Mr Rashleigh joined Mr Simpson. These batsmen played with great care and inspired some hope among the Dark Blues. The Colonials twice varied their attacks, Messrs Worrall and Jones both being put on. An appeal against Mr Simpson for obstructing his wicket was answered in the affirmative. He had been in a little over an hour for four runs. Two for 40.

Mr Forster stayed while seven were put on, when he was caught at point. After the interval Messrs Ferris and Jones had charge of the bowling. Lord George Scott went in with Mr Rashleigh. Only three runs were added when the Oxford captain returned the ball to Mr Jones. He had again made the highest score of the innings, and was curiously each time "c and b." Among his hits was a fine square leg hit for five over the ring off Mr Ferris.

Mr Wilson came next, but fell to the dexterity of the wicket-keeper, and Lord George Scott was soon bowled. Six for 55. Mr Philipson infused a little vigour into the game and caused Mr Turner to be put on again. He could not get anyone to stay with him, however, and the last wicket fell at 3.45 for 87. Thus the Australians registered their fourth victory by an innings and 19 runs.

17 May: SURREY v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3308.html)

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

Rain prevented a start being made in this match at Kennington Oval yesterday. Weather permitting, play will begin at 11 o'clock this morning.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 May, page 13)

The first match of the season between these counties began yesterday in beautiful weather at Kennington Oval. Surrey won the toss. Abel and Mr Shuter appeared at the wickets at 11.10 to oppose the bowling of Dr W G Grace and Roberts.

Only seven runs were scored when Abel ran himself out. Mr Key joined Mr Shuter, who returned the ball at 19, while his companion was caught at wicket a dozen runs later. Three for 31.

Mr W W Read and Maurice Read were now together. The total advanced with rapid strides. In spite of the fact that the bowling was changed half a dozen times, the "100" was signalled after an hour and 35 minutes' play. Maurice Read then drove a ball of Dr W G Grace's over the stand near the pavilion. Mr W W Read made 13 by two cuts and a leg hit; but at length he obstructed his wicket. He had been batting two hours, and his chief items were a cut for five, ten fours, two threes and eight twos. Four for 163.

Brockwell and Lohmann were both clean bowled, and Wood joined Maurice Read, who continued to bat in grand style, and at luncheon was not out with 64. He did not add to his score after the interval, being given out leg-before-wicket to Mr Radcliffe. Among his hits were eight fours, seven threes and six twos. Seven for 189. The last three wickets only added 11 runs – Wood clean bowled, Bowley caught at point, and Beaumont proved the third of the eleven who succumbed to the leg-before-wicket rule. Total, 200.

Dr E M Grace and Mr Radcliffe began the Gloucestershire innings at 3.40. Lohmann and Bowley opened the attack. Mr Radcliffe made a single and sent Bowley to leg for four, when he lost the company of Dr E M Grace, who was bowled middle and leg stumps. Another leg hit for three was made by Mr Radcliffe, whose leg stump was then struck.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Troup became partners. The former batted brilliantly, making 12 by two off drives and a cut from Lohmann. At 31 Abel relieved Bowley. Mr Troup showed praiseworthy patience, having batted three-quarters of an hour without scoring. About this time, however, he drove a ball of Lohmann's to the off for three. The partnership was broken by Dr W G Grace succumbing to a hard left-handed catch low down at point. His 41 was made up of eight fours, two twos and five singles. Three for 52.

Painter fell to a catch at slip three runs later; but Messrs Troup and Brain (the former still batting steadily) brightened the prospect, and the bowling was twice varied. At 79 Mr Brain was secured at wicket, and Mr Griffiths, who did not seem at home with the bowling, was served in the same manner at 95. Six down. Mr Francis was easily stumped and, the 100 having been passed at 6 o'clock, Mr Troup was clean bowled. He had been batting for two hours and a quarter for 22.

The interest now centred in the question whether Gloucestershire, with two wickets to fall and 15 to get, would save the follow on. This they failed to do – Mr Bush was clean bowled at 108, and seven runs later Mr Newnham hid his wicket. Gloucestershire will begin their second innings at 11 o'clock this morning.

Day 3 (report from Monday 21 May, page 7)

Play began at 5 minutes past 11, when the western county, in a minority of 85, began their follow-on with Dr W G Grace and Mr Troup. When eight runs had been made a fine return from slip by Mr Key was smartly taken by the wicket-keeper, causing Mr Troup to be run out.

Two other batsmen were got rid of at 20 – Mr Radcliffe caught low down at slip and Dr W G Grace at cover-point. The next seven wickets only averaged four runs each. Surrey thus won their first county match by an innings and 37 runs.

17 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128257.html)

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

The Derbyshire Eleven visited Lord's yesterday with the intention of beginning their annual match against Marylebone. From an early hour rain fell incessantly, and it was eventually agreed to postpone the start until 11 o'clock this morning.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 May, page 13)

The rains of Thursday prevented a start being made in this match at Lord's until yesterday, when the weather was delightful. Derbyshire won the toss, and at a quarter past 11 Mr Wright and Sugg went in. Wootton and Pougher led off the attack.

The latter clean bowled Sugg before a single run had been scored. Ratcliffe came in, and it seemed probable a stand would be made. At 15, however, a catch at mid-off dismissed Mr Wright. Cropper was seedily caught at point, and at 26 Davidson returned Wootton the ball. Four down. Chatterton joined Ratcliffe, and 18 runs were steadily added, when the former was caught at mid-off, and Mr Mosby, who succeeded him, succumbed to the first ball. Six for 44. Ratcliffe's useful innings was closed by the dexterity of the wicket-keeper. He had been batting a hundred minutes for 27. Hulme hit freely for his 20, and the last wicket fell for 92.

Mr Russel and F Hearne started batting for "The Club and Ground" at 1.25. Cropper and Davidson had charge of the early bowling. Mr Russel opened promisingly with a square leg hit for four. This proved his only contribution – clean bowled. Mr Wynyard and F Hearne batted well for a little time, but at 25 the latter fell to a catch at cover slip, and the former had the misfortune to be run out. Three for 26. Mr Powell made a few good hits prior to being caught at deep mid-off. The last wicket fell for 83.

The county, with a balance of nine only, went in a second time. Both Mr Wright and Sugg hit freely and between them obtained a trifle over half the entire total. Davidson and Mr Mosby played steadily; but as five batsmen contributed as many runs the innings only realized 99.

Marylebone required 109 for victory. About a third of this number was obtained at the cost of four wickets and, as will be seen from the score appended, there is a possibility of an interesting finish to-day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 21 May, page 7)

Play in this match at Lord's was resumed at 11 o'clock on Saturday. Marylebone required 73 for victory, and had six wickets left with which to get them. Mr Powell, the not out, had Mr Hillyard for a companion. Davidson and Hulme were the bowlers.

Davidson's first ball was sent to leg for four by Mr Powell, who immediately afterwards should have been caught at point. Mr Hillyard was then bowled, and half the wickets were down for 43. The last five wickets only added 20 runs, the innings realizing 63, more than a third of which were

made up of extras. Derbyshire thus won by 45 runs.

17 May: DUBLIN UNIVERSITY v AN ENGLAND ELEVEN

(Potted scores) Dublin University 178 (D Cronin 95, F H Browning 21; Flowers 3 wkts) and 92 (D N Emerson 20, J P Fitzgerald 28*; Barnes 4 wkts, Flowers 3 wkts). England Eleven 359 (Quaife 50, Gunn 191, Barnes 49, J A Dixon 24; D N Emerson 3 wkts).

Report from Monday 21 May, page 7

A strong England team visited Dublin and played a match against the University Eleven on College-green. It concluded on Saturday after three days' good cricket.

The English won the toss and put their opponents in. Mr Cronin hit freely for the University, and his 95 included nine fours, eight threes and seven twos. Gunn went in first wicket down for the England team and saw the rest of the side dismissed, having amassed the heavy score of 191. The England team won by an innings and 89 runs.

21 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3309.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 May, page 8)

Marylebone paid their annual visit to Cambridge yesterday and began their match with the Light Blues in the University ground. The weather was very fine, with the exception of a slight shower at the luncheon hour. The club won the toss and sent in Messrs Wright and de Paravicini. A very unpromising start was made, as the latter was bowled first ball and half the wickets were lost for 35 runs. Up to this point Mr Woods had taken four wickets in 14 overs for 18 runs.

Messrs Eaton and Sanderson caused the prospect to brighten considerably, and although six of their rivals went on to bowl, they added 105 runs. Mr Sanderson, who was let off, when he had made 48, at short slip, was ultimately dismissed by a fine right-handed catch by Mr Woods. His 61 comprised five fours, six threes and six twos. Mr Eaton saw the rest of the side disposed of, the innings closing at 4.35 for 129. Among Mr Eaton's hits were five fours, six threes and six twos.

The University also began their venture badly, Mr Crawley being out in the first over. Messrs Foley and Cotterill added 35, when the former was bowled. Mr Cotterill fell to a catch at point, and Messrs Martineau and Buxton were both bowled. Messrs Rowell and Ford then became partners, and remained together until the close of the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 May, page 7)

Play in this annual match was resumed yesterday on the University ground at Cambridge. The result of the previous day's cricket was that the visitors had completed an innings for 199, and six of the Cambridge wickets were lost for 92. At 11.40 Messrs Rowell and Ford (the not outs 18 and 19) continued their batting.

In spite of changes in the attack they put on 92 before the fall of the seventh wicket. Mr Rowell, of Jesus, a freshman from Marlborough, played good cricket, while Mr Ford hit with great vigour; the latter was ultimately dismissed by a difficult return catch. His chief items were nine fours, four threes and 11 twos. The innings was over at 1.20 for 207.

In the afternoon Marylebone, with the narrow majority of eight runs, went in a second time. Mr M'Gregor had injured his hand and Mr Woods kept wicket for him. The visitors began well. Messrs Wright and Paravicini ran up 49 before they were separated. The former then returned the ball. Mr Mansfield soon fell to the wicket-keeper. A capital catch at slip dismissed Mr Studd, and at length Mr Ford, whose bowling was admirable, induced Mr Paravicini to hit the ball back to him. The retiring batsman's 54 was obtained by hard hitting and was made up of ten fours, a three, four twos and only three singles. Mr Russel contributed a useful 28, and the last wicket fell at 5 o'clock for 150.

Cambridge now required 143 for victory. During the hour and a quarter that remained for play they lost six wickets for 53 runs.

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

Yesterday the Light Blues were not successful in saving their match with Marylebone as they had been the previous week against the England team. On Tuesday night they went in to obtain 143 for victory, but so effective was the bowling of Phillips and Rylott that the close of the day found them 89 runs behind with only four wickets to fall.

When the game was resumed on the University ground the weather was fine. Messrs Crawley and Woods, the not-outs, took up their positions at a quarter to 12. Messrs Crawley and Martineau were speedily disposed of; but Mr Woods hit in brilliant style, and it seemed probable at one time that Cambridge would even win. When Rylott resumed the attack, however, the batsmen were parted, having, while they were together, increased the score by 60 runs for the ninth wicket. Mr Woods's chief hits were seven fours and three threes. Mr M'Gregor did not receive a ball.

It was a quarter to 1 when Marylebone, after an excellent match, won by 17 runs. During the morning 72 had been obtained in an hour.

21 May: LANCASHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3310.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 May, page 8)

Kent were well represented at Manchester yesterday when they began the first of their matches with Lancashire. There were, however, three prominent members of the team absent – namely, Lord Harris, Mr Rashleigh and A Hearne. Neither Mr A G Steel nor Robinson was able to assist the home county. Fine weather was experienced, and there was a very large company present at the Old Trafford Ground.

The visitors won the toss and opened their innings with F Hearne and Mr Tonge. Watson and Briggs were the bowlers. Runs were added steadily, and at 27 the former gave way to Barlow. Two runs later, however, Briggs got the professional caught at short-leg. With Mr Patterson in the score again rose at a quick rate. Fifty was signalled after an hour's play. Though the bowling was repeatedly varied, the score had been increased to 87 before Mr Patterson was caught cleverly by Watson. During the partnership 58 runs were added. George Hearne's stay was brief, as with the figures at 95 he was clean bowled. Three down.

Mr Tonge was ultimately caught at point for a splendid innings of 60, in which were a five (a leg hit), five fours, two threes and six twos. After this excellent start the character of the game altogether changed, and the last six wickets put on only 45 runs.

On the home side going in, Walter Wright and Wootton bowled most effectively, and Briggs and Mr Jowett were the only batsmen who offered any determined resistance.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 May, page 7)

The close on Monday's play in the match between these counties at Manchester left Kent with a great advantage, for with only four wickets to fall their opponents were 100 runs behind. Yesterday the game was continued in cold and cheerless weather. Briggs and Ward (the not-outs with 23 and one) were opposed at 11.35 by Wright and Wootton.

Ward was caught at point at 80, and ten runs only had been added when Yates fell to a catch at wicket. Briggs, meantime, hit vigorous and, after Watson was bowled at 98, scored 25 with Pilling for the last wicket. Briggs carried out his bat for 55, the result of an hour and three-quarters' play. His chief hits were seven fours, three threes and five twos. The innings was over at 12.25 for 123.

Kent went in a second time shortly before 1 o'clock with a majority of 46 runs. Mr Tonge and F Hearne opened the batting to the attacks of Watson and Briggs. With the figures at 23 the bowling was changed at both ends, Barlow and Mr Steel going on. From this point the game went all in favour of Lancashire. At 34 Mr Tonge returned the ball and at 35 G G Hearne was caught at wicket. A good stand was made by Messrs Patterson and Wilson; but when Briggs resumed the latter was soon stumped. Four for 60. After Mr Patterson was out Mr Marchant and Walter Wright played with some success, but the rest of the side did little, and the innings closed at 20 minutes past 4 with the total at 116.

Lancashire, who required 163, went in a second time. Mr Hornby played in his old style for 47, and

before the first wicket fell he and Barlow had scored 75.

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

The interest in this match was well-sustained throughout. At the close of Kent's second innings Lancashire were left 163 to win, so that at this stage it was still "anybody's game." On Tuesday evening the home county obtained 75 at the cost of one wicket only, the chances thus being in their favour.

The proverbial uncertainty of cricket received another exemplification, however, at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday. Barlow (the not out with 23) was accompanied to the wickets by Mr Eccles. Martin and Wootton shared the attack at a quarter past 11. Only seven runs were added when the former clean bowled Barlow. Mr Jowett came in and the score steadily advanced to 97; the last comer was then disposed of by a fine catch in the long-field. Three down.

Briggs contributed a single prior to being bowled by Walter Wright, who had relieved Wootton. Mr Steel followed, and the three figures were reached amid cheers. Misfortunes now fell thick upon Lancashire – Mr Steel was caught at cover-point at 102, Mr Eccles fell to point at 113, and Yates was caught by the wicket-keeper a couple of runs later. Seven for 115. An addition of six saw the dismissal of Ward, Watson was secured by cover-point and Sugg by slip. The innings closed a little after 1 o'clock for 129. Thus Kent were the winners of a gallantly-fought match by 33 runs. The visitors' fielding was remarkably good.

21 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3311.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 May, page 8)

Many thousands of spectators visited the Trent-bridge-ground, Nottingham, yesterday to witness this match. The keen rivalry between these counties always invests their contests with particular interest, and the greatest enthusiasm was shown. The home side won the toss and sent in Mr Dixon and Scotton. Lohmann and Bowley opened the attack.

The start was very dispiriting, as in the first over, with only a single scored, Mr Dixon was taken at extra slip. Gunn joined Scotton and made a fine drive to the off from Lohmann. Scotton made four by a couple of leg hits, when he also fell to a catch at slip. Two for 9. Barnes came next on the list, but his stay was brief – clean bowled. Mr Daft was soon dismissed, and four good wickets were lost for 23. A slight improvement was effected when Flowers assisted Gunn and Mr W W Read superseded Bowley. When 25 had been added, Flowers was taken at point. Half the wickets, 48 runs.

Mr Lindley, of Cambridge University, then made his first appearance for the county. Bowley again took up the bowling at his old end. A return catch by Mr Lindley to Lohmann was not accepted. Gunn hit vigorously and made eight by a cut and off-drive from Lohmann. At 74 a double change was adopted, the bowling being intrusted to Abel and Beaumont. This did not prevent the score reaching 90 at luncheon.

Afterwards, Lohmann resumed. Runs again came freely and the attack underwent other alterations. The score reached 123 before Mr Lindley was caught at slip. Gunn's excellent innings was closed at 142. He had been batting three hours for his 69 and had not given a chance; his hits included seven fours, five threes and eight twos. Richardson batted well prior to being run out, and the last wicket fell at 20 minutes past 4 for 187, a far better score than had at one time been expected.

Mr Shuter and Abel went in for Surrey at 20 minutes to 5. They gave a chance each – both very difficult – Mr Shuter at point and Abel at wicket. Apart from this their batting was very fine and was fully appreciated by the company. It may be noted that the Surrey team was the same as that which defeated Nottinghamshire at Trent-bridge last season, with the exception that Jones is displaced by Henderson. Shrewsbury and Attewell (the former remaining in Australia and the latter having injured his hand) were absent from the home team.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 May, page 7)

A full and interesting day's cricket was witnessed yesterday at the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham. On the previous evening the home side had finished an innings for 187, and Surrey had obtained 94 without loss of wicket. Mr Shuter and Abel (not outs with 43 and 50) started batting within a few minutes of 11 o'clock. Flowers and Barnes had charge of the bowling.

The total was advanced to 144, when Abel fell to a catch at wicket. He had been batting two hours and 40 minutes for 77, in which were four fours, 11 threes and seven twos. Mr Shuter was clean bowled with the score at 161. He had played with more caution than he usually exhibits, and his 69 occupied three hours and five minutes; it included seven fours, five threes and six twos.

Neither Mr Roller nor Maurice Read did much, but when Mr Read and Lohmann were together runs were again obtained at a steady rate. The Nottinghamshire total was passed at 12.50, and at 1 o'clock the 20 was reached. Mr W W Read was bowled and at 208 Lohmann fell to a catch at wicket. A catch in the slips disposed of Wood at 224, and Henderson and Beaumont kept together until the luncheon interval. Afterwards the latter was soon bowled, and the innings closed for 237, or 50 runs on.

Nottinghamshire began their second venture at a quarter past 3. Lohmann was in splendid form with the ball, and he bowled Scotton, Mr Dixon and Gunn for 13. Mr Daft played an invaluable innings, only slightly marred by two indifferent hits in the slips. The last wicket went for 131. Surrey started their second venture, and have now 81 runs to get with all their wickets to fall.

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

With the wicket still in good order, it was not expected that Surrey would have much difficulty in obtaining the 81 runs they required for victory yesterday with the whole of their wickets intact. Play at the Trent-Bridge Ground was continued in fine weather within a few minutes of 11 o'clock. Henderson and Roller, the not-outs, were confronted by Flowers and Barnes.

The professional hit with freedom, and obtained eight by a cut and drive from Barnes. Neither batsman could do much against Flowers, who bowled ten overs for three runs. The score advanced at a very tardy pace, 20 being the result of 35 minutes' play. An alteration in the attack was made at both ends, Buckland and Richardson going on. Subsequently Shacklock relieved Buckland, and at 38, which had taken an hour to obtain, he clean bowled Mr Roller.

Mr Key became Henderson's partner, and hit so freely that, despite the many changes adopted by the home side, the necessary runs were obtained a little before 1 o'clock. Thus Surrey won by nine wickets. In fairness to the losers it must be borne in mind that they were without their best bat in Shrewsbury and one of their best bowlers in Attewell.

21 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 May, page 8)

In the presence of a very large number of onlookers the Gentlemen of England opened their match with the University in the Parks at Oxford yesterday. Play began at half-past 12, when the home side, successful in the toss, sent in Messrs Gresson and Simpson. The bowling was shared by Rawlin and Mr Robertson.

Runs were rapidly obtained, and at 39 Mr Robertson handed the ball to Mr Hedley. This did not have the wished-for effect, and a further change was adopted at 51, Mr Leatham relieving Rawlin. Mr Gresson was missed when he had obtained 48, but he was soon afterwards caught at deep mid-on. His 53 was the product of hard hitting, and included five fours, four threes and five twos. Mr Rashleigh did not stay very long, but when the Hon Mr Thesiger joined Mr Simpson most determined opposition was offered to the attack. No separation had been effected up to luncheon, when the score had reached 96.

Afterwards the hundred was quickly passed, and the batsmen continued to defy the varied tactics of their rivals. It was not, indeed, until 169 had been reached that Mr Thesiger incautiously placed his leg in front of his wicket; his chief hits were six fours. Mr Simpson still played well, and was batting four hours and a half before he was caught at point; his almost faultless innings was made up of 12 fours, four threes, seven twos and singles. Mr Forster hit freely, but gave a chance previous to being bowled; in his 53 were six fours and five threes. Oxford retained possession of the wickets until the close of the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 May, page 7)

At Oxford yesterday the University, who had accumulated 290 runs for eight wickets on Monday, continued their innings at 20 minutes to 12. Nothing further was obtained from the bat; but the score was augmented by four byes, the last wicket falling for 294.

For the Gentlemen of England, Mr Walker, who went in first wicket down, saw the rest of the side come and go. He was batting two hours and three-quarters. Among his hits were 11 fours, four threes and 14 twos. The innings closed for 190.

With arrears of 104 to make up the visitors went in a second time. At the outset there seemed every probability of a speedy termination of the match. Messrs Walker and Webbe were both bowled at three, and Mr Studd got in front of his wicket at eight. Mr Watson and Captain Friend then became associated and completely altered the aspect of the game. The attack was changed and rechanged; but the score was carried to 172 – or 164 since the fall of the third wicket – before Captain Friend's superb innings was closed by a catch by Mr Simpson. Stumps were now drawn for the day, Mr Watson being not out 87.

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

Heavy scoring characterized yesterday's play in the match between the Gentlemen of England and

the University at Oxford. At the adjournment on Tuesday evening the University had scored 294, and the Gentlemen, following their innings of 190, had obtained 178 for the loss of four wickets. Mr Watson and Rawlin were the not-outs with 87 and one. The bowlers were Messrs Bassett and Forster.

Mr Watson after adding four was bowled. He had shown good form, and his hits included 11 fours and three threes. Mr Henery came in and batted in vigorous style. He saw the rest of the side dismissed and remained unconquered, having scored 138. Messrs Leatham and Robertson both stayed with him some time. Mr Henery's chief hits were 17 fours, seven threes and 11 twos.

The University were left with 344 to obtain for victory, but the time remaining for play was altogether insufficient for the task. Oxford lost two wickets for 16 runs, but subsequently Mr Rashleigh, the captain, and the Hon F J N Thesiger, last year's captain of Winchester, both batted brilliantly, and eventually the game was drawn. As will be seen from the appended score, the three days' cricket produced more than a thousand runs.

21 May: SUSSEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3313.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 May, page 8)

The Western county, with a heavy defeat by Surrey fresh upon them, entered on their first engagement against Sussex at the Hove, Brighton, yesterday. Having won the toss, the visitors took possession of a fast wicket. Drs W G and E M Grace were opposed by the brothers Hide.

With the score at 12 the last-named batsman was caught at third man. Mr Troup joined Dr W G Grace, and at 26 the Gloucestershire captain had an escape at the hands of Tester at mid-off. The home side, as will be seen, paid very dearly for this mistake. Although the attack was repeatedly varied runs came steadily. The 100 was reached at half-past 1. With an addition of eight Mr Troup was caught at point. Mr Pullen succeeded him, and at luncheon the total had been carried to 111.

On resuming the batting still triumphed. Again the bowling was changed, but 49 runs were added when Mr Pullen was bowled. Mr Radcliffe contributed exactly half of the 88 put on before the fall of the fourth wicket. Mr Brain was soon bowled, and Painter joined Dr W G Grace. Both batsmen sent the ball in all directions. This partnership yielded 124 runs, when Painter was bowled; his hits included three fours, two threes and 12 twos. With the fall of Painter's wicket play ceased for the day. Dr W G Grace had been batting five hours and a half for 188 runs, and although no fewer than nine bowlers had been brought against him he remained unconquered.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 May, page 7)

Sussex have always enjoyed the reputation of being able to play an uphill game well, and yesterday it was demonstrated that they still possess this faculty. On Monday it will be remembered that Gloucestershire monopolized the whole of the batting at the Hove ground, Brighton, losing six wickets for 361. Dr Grace, the not-out with 188 runs, was accompanied to the wickets at 11.10 by Mr Newnham.

The latter was soon disposed of, as was also Mr Francis. Mr Bush arrived, and runs came pretty freely for some time. At length the Gloucestershire captain was driven on to his wicket. He had been in nearly seven hours, and there was no falling-off from the masterly batting for which he is so famous, while he exhibited quite his old skill in placing the ball. His chief items were 20 fours, three threes and 26 twos. Roberts was stumped, and the innings closed for 428.

Against this formidable total Sussex sent in Tester and Quaife. Roberts and Dr W G Grace conducted the attack. The start was of a most pitiable nature, three batsmen being disposed of for 16. Jesse Hide and Mr M'Cormick became partners, and so great an improvement was shown that the figures were at 65 before the latter was run out. Humphreys aided in taking the score past the 10, but then hit the ball into the hands of mid-on. Half the wickets were lost for 104.

Now came a most brilliant display of batting by J Hide and Mr C A Smith (the latter recently returned from Australia). Gloucestershire resorted to all the tactics of which they were masters. These were set at defiance until the score reached 265 (161 since the previous wicket). Hide's grand innings was then closed by a return catch. He was missed by Painter in the long-field, but not until he had made 78. His principal hits were 22 fours, two threes and nine twos.

Mr Smith played under a ball, which short slip held, at 294; he was in two hours and ten minutes for 85, in which, however, were two chances – he should have been stumped when he had made 38 and was let off in the long-field with his score at 51. His hits were 11 fours, three threes and eight twos. Sussex, at the close of the day, required 15 to avert the follow-on and still had a wicket to fall.

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

Rarely does a side go in against a total of over 400 and then have the advantage at the end of a match. Sussex have accomplished many excellent batting performances, but few can compare with their play in the game which ended on the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday.

When stumps were drawn on Thursday evening the home side, with one wicket to fall, required 15 runs to avert the follow on. Phillips and A Hide were the not-outs, with 22 and eight respectively. They were opposed shortly after 11 o'clock by Mr Newnham and Roberts. Both played steadily, and after a quarter of an hour Hide, by a square-leg hit for four, saved the follow on. Phillips was then caught at wicket and the innings closed for 354.

Gloucestershire went in a second time with an advantage of 74. The start was bad, for only six runs were recorded when Dr E M Grace was taken at slip and at 13 his brother returned the ball. Troup was soon bowled and, with three wickets down for 18, Messrs Radcliffe and Pullen became partners. They made a determined stand and, though the bowling underwent several variations, the three figures appeared at 1.35. At 106 Mr Pullen was bowled. During the partnership 88 runs had been scored.

Mr Brain stayed until after luncheon, when he was bowled; Painter was dismissed by a catch at cover-point, and at 128 Mr Newnham obstructed his wicket. Seven down. Mr Radcliffe was eighth out at 130 for a first-class innings of 68. He was missed by Humphreys at point when he had scored six, but apart from this his defence was faultless. His chief hits were seven fours, a three and 14 twos.

Sussex went in a second time requiring 249 for victory and with two-and-a-half hours in which to get them. The start was ominous, three wickets falling for 33 runs. Messrs Newham and M'Cormick, however, greatly improved affairs and in spite of frequent bowling changes added 88 for the fourth wicket. Mr M'Cormick was then bowled. Mr Newham carried out his bat for an excellent 81. He had two escapes, the first with his figures at 57, Roberts missing him at mid-on; and, subsequently, he should have been run out by Mr Radcliffe. His chief contributions were eight fours, three threes and nine twos.

When stumps were drawn and the match was left unfinished, Sussex had six wickets to fall and were within 88 of victory. During the three days over 1,100 runs were registered.

21 May: YORKSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3314.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 May, page 8)

So far as the fifth match of the Australian tour has proceeded there seems to be little likelihood of a check being put to their triumphal career. Over 13,000 people paid for admission to the Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, yesterday, when the weather was very fine. The Australians left out Messrs Bannerman and Lyons, the former not having yet recovered from the injury to his knee.

Yorkshire were fortunate in winning the toss, which enabled them to take possession of a good wicket. Ulyett and Hall were opposed by Messrs Turner and Ferris. In the first over and before a single had been made, Hall was clean bowled. The county's misfortune was soon followed by a second, as with the figures at 16 a catch at slip disposed of Lee. Peel joined Ulyett, who gave promise of a long innings. The score had only reached 35, however, when he was caught at long-on. Mr Hill, who came next, soon lost the company of Peel – clean bowled.

Preston assisted Mr Hill. These caused matters to look more hopeful, and Mr Trott bowled four overs in lieu of Mr Turner. Mr Blackham, the Australian wicket-keeper, received a blow on the eye, and his place was taken by Mr Jarvis, and a substitute fielded. With the score at 83, Mr Hill, who had shown remarkably good defence, was bowled; but with Wainwright in the three figures were signalled shortly before 2 o'clock.

The interval over, the last four wickets were secured for an addition 24. Preston was run out through capital fielding, having shown good cricket. Three of the county batsmen contributed 93 out of the entire total of 125. The bowling and fielding of the Australians were first-rate.

The Colonials started badly, but improved later on. Mr Bonnor, who has hitherto batted disappointingly, bit in vigorous style. In a couple of hours 200 runs were scored. Mr Bonnor gave a somewhat hard chance, when he had made 77, prior to that which led to his dismissal. He obtained his 94 in an hour and 40 minutes by 16 fours, three threes, three twos and 15 singles. Mr Blackham was able to go in, and played a capital innings of 37. Messrs Turner and Edwards batted carefully, and at the close of the day the Australians were left with a great advantage. Mr Hill and Wainwright, who played at Lord's against Marylebone, took the places of Lord Hawke and Bates.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 May, page 7)

Although Monday's cricket was emphatically in favour of the Colonials at Bramall-lane, Sheffield, it was pretty generally expected that Yorkshire would achieve a good performance yesterday. Some, indeed, of their more ardent admirers were sanguine about their being able to make a drawn game of it. Consequently, there was a very large attendance of Yorkshiremen, who, however, were bitterly disappointed in the result. Yorkshire had completed an innings for 125, and the Australians were 124 runs on for seven wickets.

Messrs Edwards and Ferris (the not-outs with 23 and 7) were opposed at 11.25 by Peel and Preston. In the sixth over Mr Edwards was bowled. Neither Mr Jarvis nor Mr Boyle offered any great resistance to the attack, and the last wicket fell at 10 minutes past 12 for 292, who included no fewer than 42 extras.

Yorkshire, with the heavy burden of 167, went in a second time. Ulyett and Hall faced the bowling of Messrs Turner and Ferris. The start was encouraging, and 34 runs were steadily made. Mr Turner then handed the ball to Mr Jones, which had the effect of dismissing Ulyett six runs later. Lee came and Mr Turner resumed bowling. A catch at mid-off got rid of the new-comer at 59. Hall and Peel carried the total to 76, when the former was caught at point and the latter had the ill-fortune to be run out. Four wickets rapidly fell and the venture closed for 103.

Yorkshire were thus defeated by an innings and 64 runs. The turf was a little worn, and the great proportion of wickets actually bowled by the visitors may be noted. This forms the fifth Australian victory, four of them by a single innings.

21 May: ESSEX v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128522.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 May, page 8)

There was a numerous company on the Lyttelton Ground at Leyton yesterday to witness the beginning of the match between these counties. Essex won the toss, and at noon Messrs Owen and Green started batting on a fiery wicket. Hulme and Davidson bowled.

Three batsmen were speedily dismissed – Mr Green and Littlewood bowled and Mr Gosling run out. Bastow then joined Mr Owen, and among other items drove Hulme to the on for four. The total having been advanced from 13 to 42, Chatterton relieved Davidson. His second ball was cut by Bastow to point, who held it at the second attempt. Mr Boyton came in, and Hulme gave way to Mr Walker. Mr Boyton drove Chatterton well to the off for four; and at 62 Hulme resumed. The separation, however, came from the other end. Mr Owen was bowled and Burns caught at slip – both at 63.

With seven runs added, Mr Boyton obstructed his wicket. Seven for 70. Mr Sewell hit pretty freely for a few overs and, with Mr Bishop, put on 23 runs. The former was then bowled and the latter caught at wicket. Bryan was soon bowled and the innings closed for 96.

When Derbyshire began their batting the cricket was very slow. Messrs Wright and Hindley, with Ratcliffe, were bowled for 13 runs, which had taken 40 minutes to obtain. Cropper and Davidson put on 18, when the former, who had scored seven by an off-drive and square leg hit, was caught at long-slip, and five runs afterwards Davidson was secured by the wicket-keeper. Chatterton, who went in fourth wicket down, carried out his bat for a well-played 40. Total 117.

Essex, with 21 runs in arrear, went in a second time. Four wickets fell without these being obtained. Messrs Boyton and Gosling, however, took the score to 27, when the former was clean bowled. Bastow joined Mr Gosling and these played out time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 May, page 7)

Yesterday, in cold, cheerless weather, the match between these counties was concluded on the Lyttelton Ground at Leyton. On the previous evening each side had completed an innings, and Essex, in a minority of 21, had lost half their wickets in the second venture for 32. Mr Gosling and Bastow (not-outs, six and one) continued their batting to the attacks of Hulme and Davidson.

The start did not promise well, as at 32 Bastow's off stump was struck out of the ground. Six down. Mr Sewell batted brilliantly for a little while; but at 48 Mr Gosling seemed deceived in the pace of a ball of Davidson's, who ran and caught it well with his left hand midway between the wickets. Mr Sewell's freely-hit innings was closed by a fine ball, which knocked down his leg stump; his 26 was made up of four fours, two threes and two twos. Mr Bishop hit well for a few overs and carried out his bat, the last wicket falling for 76.

Derbyshire now wanted 56 to win. They began badly, Mr Hindley being bowled before a run had been scored. Mr Wright and Ratcliff, although five bowlers were tried, put on 40 for the second wicket, the former being then caught at cover-point. Five runs later Ratcliff played on. Cropper

and Davidson were next together, and a square-leg hit by the latter won the match for Derbyshire by seven wickets.

24 May: KENT v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3315.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 May, page 7)

A large company visited the Rectory Field, at Blackheath, yesterday to see the match between Kent and Gloucestershire. Kent had by no means their strongest side, while the western county was well represented.

Gloucestershire won the toss, and at ten minutes past 12 Drs W G and E M Grace began their batting. Walter Wright and Wootton were intrusted with the bowling. The first item of note was a cut for three by the captain, while Dr E M Grace twice drove Wright for four. The latter had his off stump upset at 23, and a further misfortune befell the visitors at 35, when Mr Troup succumbed to a catch at wicket.

With Mr Radcliffe and Dr W G Grace as partners runs were scored rapidly, chiefly by the latter. At 1 o'clock 50 was signalled, and four runs later the first bowling change was made, Wootton handing the ball to Mr Hedley. Dr Grace drove Wright finely to the on for four, while Mr Radcliffe obtained a like number by a cut. Martin took the ball at 69. Wootton resumed at 82, but Dr Grace cut each bowler for four, and at ten minutes to 2 he completed his 50, the 100 at the same time appearing on the telegraph board. Walter Wright now took the ball again, and he quickly got Mr Radcliffe caught at extra mid-off. The partnership had produced 70 runs.

After luncheon Mr Brain accompanied his captain to the wicket. Wootton and Wright were again the bowlers. Three drives by Dr Grace produced eight runs, but at 114 he was well caught in the long field straight behind the bowler. He had been in nearly two hours. Among his hits were seven fours, two threes and seven twos.

Wickets now fell rapidly. Mr Brain was caught at mid-off low down at 124, Mr Newnham was run out at 129 and Mr Francis was taken at mid-on with the figures at 133. Seven runs later Painter was caught in the slips, and the remaining two batsmen were dismissed for an addition of nine. Total 149, time 3.55.

Mr Atkins and F Hearne began the Kent innings at 4.20 to the bowling of Roberts and Mr Newnham. Mr Atkins made three fine off-drives for two fours and a three. Mr Radcliffe received the ball from Mr Newnham at 20, and in his second over he bowled Mr Atkins. G G Hearne joined his brother, and the pair offered a stout resistance to the Gloucestershire attack. Mr Radcliffe and Dr W G Grace took charge of the bowling, and when 59 had been scored F Hearne went out, leg before wicket.

The Rev Mr Thornton and G G Hearne added 28 before Dr Grace got the latter caught in the long field. Walter Wright followed in. A three to square-leg by Mr Thornton completed the 100 at 6.20. Stumps were shortly afterwards drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 May, page 9)

In spite of the absence of several of their most prominent cricketers, Gloucestershire played in a most determined manner at Blackheath yesterday. So interesting was the position of the score at the

close of Thursday that several thousand people visited the Rectory Field to watch yesterday's cricket. Kent, having obtained 106 for three wickets against a total of 149 on the other side, resumed batting at a quarter past 11. Mr Radcliffe and Roberts were the bowlers.

The Rev Mr Thornton and Wright, the overnight not outs, with 25 and eight, were soon separated, as at 110 the amateur was bowled. Mr Marchant, who came in, obtained three by a leg hit and eight by two cuts from Roberts. This bowler was relieved by Dr W G Grace at 121. Wickets soon began to fall rapidly. With three added, Mr Marchant fell to a catch at mid-off, and ten runs later Wright was secured at cover-point. Mr Hedley, who went in next, was well caught at deep square-leg. Seven for 134.

Mr Christopherson had his middle stump bowled down by Dr Grace at 138; four runs later Martin was caught at long-off, and at a quarter past 12 a catch at mid-off disposed of Pentecost and brought the innings to a close for 150. Thus there was a balance of one on the first innings in favour of Kent.

At 12.35 Drs W G Grace and E M Grace opened the Gloucestershire second innings to the bowling of Wootton and Wright. At 32 a double change in the bowling was adopted, Martin and Mr Christopherson taking charge of the ball. 50 were registered in 18 minutes, and 70 was signalled after 50 minutes' play; but at 77 the Gloucestershire captain was caught at the wicket. The result of an hour's play was 88 for one wicket. At 105 Dr E M Grace returned the ball. He had made 56, in which were eight fours and five twos. When the last wicket went down a total of [234] had been made.

Kent went in again at ten minutes to 6. Mr Atkins and F Hearne quickly scored 32 before the former was taken at wicket. Two other batsmen were speedily dismissed.

Day 3 (report from Monday 28 May, page 10)

The Rectory Field, Blackheath, was the scene of Saturday of an excellent display of batting by Mr Marchant, last year's captain of the Cambridge eleven. Among the visitors who journeyed down to witness the finish was Lord Harris. Gloucestershire at the close of Friday's play had a distinct advantage, for on a treacherous wicket the home county, with seven batsmen left, required 197 to be obtained for victory.

It may be mentioned that owing to a mistake by the umpire on Friday, Dr E M Grace was the loser of two of his runs, for a hit of six was only signalled as four. The score was corrected on Saturday.

At a quarter past 11 Mr Christopherson, the not-out, with four, was assisted by the Rev Mr Thornton. The latter was bowled by the first ball sent him, and four wickets were down for 37. Walter Wright came to the aid of Mr Christopherson, who at once cut Roberts for four; but, with his figures at 10, he made a bad hit in the slips. The 50 was signalled at 11.30. A single later, however, Wright was caught by the wicket-keeper standing back. Half the wickets were now down, and the chances of Kent saving the game appeared hopeless.

Messrs Marchant and Christopherson, however, improved matters considerably. Mr Marchant scored three fours, a leg hit and two on drives, from Dr W G Grace, while an off drive by Mr Christopherson from the other end, on which he should have been caught by Mr Francis, also realized four. Mr Christopherson soon drove Roberts for four, but at 82 Dr W G Grace dismissed

him lbw. For the sixth wicket 31 runs had been added.

Another stand was made by Messrs Marchant and Hedley. The former obtained eight by a cut and a drive from Roberts, and with an off-drive from Dr Grace he reached the century at five minutes past 12. Mr Radcliffe now relieved Dr W G Grace, but Mr Marchant continued his brilliant hitting. He obtained two fours and a two by cuts and four and two by drives, which completed his 50 after he had been in 45 minutes. At 131 the bowling was changed; Dr E M Grace displaced Mr Radcliffe, who crossed over to the other wicket. Before a run had been added Mr Hedley skied the ball to point and Dr E M Grace made the catch. Since Mr Christopherson had left 49 runs had been put on. Wootton's stay was brief, for he tamely returned the ball at 133. Eight down.

When Martin came in, Mr Marchant gained four and three by drives and four by a cut, but then the professional left – caught at slip. Pentecost came last. Mr Marchant contributed 14 more runs to the total and then fell to a catch at long-off. He had played with all that old vigour which gained for him his reputation as a batsman in the Eton v Harrow match a few years ago. He was only in an hour and a quarter for his 84. He made 11 fours, four threes and four twos. The downfall of Mr Marchant brought the innings to a close, and Gloucestershire were the winners by 75 runs.

24 May: LANCASHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3316.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 May, page 7)

There was an exceedingly large concourse of spectators in the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday, to witness the sixth match of the Australian tour. Lancashire, who won the toss, sent in Mr Hornby and Barlow to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Ferris.

The start was anything but hopeful for the county, as at 11 Mr Hornby got in front of his wicket, and Barlow was bowled for the addition of a single. Two for 12. Messrs Eccles and Steel were now partners. Both gave chances – the former should have been stumped and the latter was let off at slip. Profiting by these indulgences both batted more carefully. The score reached 50 and yet only two wickets were down. The aspect of the innings thus completely altered, four batsmen being disposed of for six runs – Mr Steel, leg-before; Mr Jowett, caught at mid-on; Mr Eccles, at cover-point; and Crosfield by the bowler. Six for 56.

Briggs, who batted well, was then joined by the Rev Mr Napier, who was soon bowled. At the interval 85 were recorded without further loss of wicket. The second ball delivered by Mr Ferris afterwards clean bowled Briggs. Watson was dismissed by a bailer, and Ward caught at the wicket, the innings closing at 3 o'clock for 98. Mr Ferris was exceptionally successful, taking eight wickets for 41.

The Australians started their batting at 20 minutes past 3. Messrs M'Donnell and Jones were opposed by Barlow and Watson. Twenty-two runs were soon scored, when Barlow was displaced by the Rev Mr Napier, who, with his second ball, dismissed the Australian captain. Two wickets went down for 43. Mr Bonnor stayed while 21 were added, but was then bowled. The appearance of Mr Blackham was at once followed by Watson resuming bowling. The last-comer hit hard for a few overs; but was secured in the long-field at 83.

The Lancashire total was passed and the century reached at 20 minutes to 5. Towards this number Mr Jones had contributed liberally; he completed his 50 shortly afterwards. Briggs was now bowling at his best, and at 113 he dismissed Mr Worrall, while nine runs later a ball of his found its way to Mr Jones's wicket. The latter had been batting an hour and a half, and his hits included four fours, five threes and ten twos. The innings closed for 163.

In a minority of 65 Lancashire went in a second time, and at the close of the day had lost two wickets for 40. Neither Robinson nor Sugg were able to play for the county.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 May, page 9)

The spell of Australian success has been broken, and that, too, in a most unexpected manner. The opening day's play pointed unmistakably to a victory for the visitors at the Old Trafford ground, Manchester. Each side had then finished an innings, and Lancashire, 65 runs behind, had lost two wickets for 40.

The game was resumed yesterday at noon, before a large number of spectators, which during the day amounted to about 12,000. Mr Steel (not out, 12) had Mr Eccles for a companion. Messrs

Ferris and Turner again bowled. When Mr Steel had made 20 he was let off by the wicket-keeper, who should have stumped him. With the score at 67, Mr Turner relinquished the ball to Mr Jones. Both batsmen seemed well set and a further change was adopted at 82, Mr Turner going on at Mr Ferris's end. At 90 Mr Steel hit the ball round into the hands of short-leg; the third wicket added 50 runs.

Mr Turner's bowling was now most effective, and at 95 he dismissed Mr Jowett, Briggs and Mr Crosfield, the first two in an over. With six Lancashire wickets down and only 30 runs on, the result seemed quite a foregone conclusion for the Australians. Mr Napier joined Mr Eccles, and the 100 was completed at 1.25. Fourteen runs later, the latter's patient innings closed through a capital ball of Mr Turner's finding its way to his wicket. The same bowler soon got rid of Ward and Watson. Nine for 120.

The county were still only 55 to the good when Pilling joined Mr Napier. The latter had an escape in the long field at the hands of Mr Jones when he had made 19. The total having advanced to 137, Mr Ferris, who had resumed bowling, was relieved by Mr Jones. Mr Napier still batted well and made 12 by three hits. At 154, however, he was bowled, the innings closing at 2 o'clock.

After the interval the Australians began their second innings with 90 set them for victory – a task presumably easy. Messrs M'Donnell and Jones were opposed by Briggs and Mr Napier. The latter (a right-hand fast bowler) became almost dangerous on the fiery wicket. A catch at slip dismissed Mr Jones at 10. Messrs Trott and M'Donnell batted steadily and trebled the score before the latter was secured at wicket. Two for 30.

Mr Bonnor joined Mr Trott. With only five runs added there came a downfall of three wickets – Mr Trott bowled, Mr Bonnor caught at mid-off and Mr Blackham at mid-on. Half the wickets, and these the best, were now gone without half the required number of runs having been gained. The excitement became intense and every ball was watched with the keenest anxiety. A catch at point sent Mr Turner back at 38; and Briggs brought about the downfall of Messrs Worrall and Edwards at 45 with successive balls; the former was caught at long-on and the latter at point.

With only two wickets to fall and 45 runs yet required, the hopes of the county ran high. Messrs Jarvis and Ferris were now associated. The former made two cuts for four each, and the result still hung in the balance. At 58, however, Mr Jarvis was bowled. Mr Boyle, the last man, joined Mr Ferris. The former was struck by a ball from Mr Napier, whom Mr Ferris cut for four. With the total at 66, the home side altered their tactics, Barlow going on for Mr Napier. This answered the purpose. The third ball Mr Ferris hit right round at, and Mr Crosfield, running in from long leg, made a magnificent catch close to the ground, which won the match for Lancashire by 23 runs. The victory – at first scarcely realized – was received with great cheering, and the joy of the spectators was almost unbounded.

24 May: MIDDLESEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3317.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 May, page 7)

Lord Hawke made his first appearance since his accession to the title at Lord's yesterday, when he captained the northern county against Middlesex. There were nearly 4,000 people on the ground in the course of the day, the weather having improved since the early morning.

Yorkshire, successful in the toss, took possession of an excellent wicket at five minutes past 12. Ulyett and Hall faced the bowling of Burton and Mr Ford. The former sent down four maiden overs and then clean bowled Ulyett. Six runs later Lee fell to slip off the same bowler, and Lord Hawke joined Hall. The Yorkshire captain played under a ball of Burton's, which Mr Buckland at slip just touched with his right hand. In the third subsequent over he was caught high up at wicket. Three for 19.

Peel came and with an on-drive to the boundary off Mr Ford sent the total up to 23 after 40 minutes' play. Peel then made four by a square-leg hit from the same bowler. To these items Hall responded with an off-drive and leg-hit for three each, but at 33 was clean bowled. Mr Hill led off with a square-leg hit for four from Mr Ford, who handed the ball to Mr Robertson at 41. Peel drove each bowler for four. At 82 Mr Robertson gave way to Mr Buckland, whose second ball dismissed Mr Hill. Preston made an off-drive for four from Burton, who at 90 was displaced by Mr Webbe, to whom Peel was out leg-before. Luncheon now intervened.

After the interval Burton and Mr Buckland resumed bowling. Harrison, who batted so well for the Colts of the North at Lord's in the early part of the week, came in with Preston, but at 99 was clean bowled. Seven down. Wainwright assisted Preston, who drove Burton well to the off for four, causing the 100 to be signalled. Wainwright made ten by two cuts and an off-drive. With the total at 126, Mr Webbe again went on for Burton. A splendid catch in the long-field dismissed Preston at 128. Creighton, another colt, was bowled without having scored, and a catch at mid-on got rid of Hunter, Wainwright carrying out his bat for a freely-hit 27. Time, 3.30.

Middlesex began badly, Mr Lucas, Mr Webbe and Mr Scott all being bowled for a dozen runs. Messrs Walker and Buckland were then opposed by Preston and Peel. Their partnership proved brief, however, as at 19 the last-named batsman was bowled. Mr O'Brien with a single brought the score up to 20, these having taken two minutes each to obtain. At 41, Ulyett superseded Preston. Mr Walker, who had made two off-drives and a cut for four each, was bowled, and half the wickets were down for 54. Mr Ford drove a full-pitched ball of Ulyett's to the pavilion for four, but at 61 he also was bowled.

At 80 Creighton, a slow left-hand bowler, relieved Peel. Mr Paravicini played on at 87, and Burton and Mr Bryant were both clean bowled. Nine for 97. Messrs O'Brien and Robertson put on 27 for the last wicket, when the former fell to an easy catch at long-slip. Total, 122.

Yorkshire, with 15 runs to the good, sent in Mr Hill and Hall. Burton clean bowled the former with the first ball of the innings. Wainwright cut Burton for three and Mr Buckland (the other bowler) for four. At 10 a smart catch at wicket dismissed Hall, and before a run had been added Wainwright was bowled. Stumps were now drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 May, page 9)

Disappointment was the prevailing feeling among those who visited Lord's yesterday. Three hours proved sufficient to decide the game. On Thursday evening Yorkshire, with 15 runs to the good, had lost three wickets for ten runs. Yesterday, at ten minutes past 11, Creighton (not out) had Ulyett for a partner. Burton and Mr Buckland shared the bowling.

Runs came rather slowly until 26 were reached, when Ulyett was clean bowled. Creighton fell to a catch at mid-off. Five for 29. The rest of the wickets went for 14 runs – Lee had his leg stump knocked out of the ground, Lord Hawke was bowled, Peel stumped, Preston caught at mid-on and Hunter bowled. Total 43. Burton's bowling was remarkable – seven wickets for 18 runs.

Middlesex now had the easy task of making 59 for victory, and sent in Messrs Webbe and Lucas. When nine runs had been obtained Preston sent down a particularly fast ball, which struck Hunter on the left thumb and caused him to retire. Runs were quickly made, and the match was won by nine wickets.

24 May: DERBYSHIRE v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128541.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 May, page 7)

Surrey placed the same eleven into the field at Derby yesterday as that which defeated Nottinghamshire. The weather was delightfully fine and the company numerous. Derbyshire won the toss, and at a quarter past 12 Cropper and Ratcliff took possession of a rather dangerous wicket. Beaumont and Bowley led the attack.

When the score had reached 15 Ratcliff was bowled. Charlesworth, a colt, batted in good style, and at 32 Lohmann relieved Beaumont. This change had the effect of dismissing Charlesworth. After this, Davidson, Chatterton and Sugg batted fairly well, and half the wickets were down for 89. The remaining portion only added 26, the innings closing after two-and-a-half hours' play for 115.

Surrey's opening was not promising, the first three wickets going for 20. Mr Walter Read then batted brilliantly, and he received useful assistance from Abel and Wood. Mr Read, whose 86 included nine fours, six threes and ten twos, was the last to leave. The bowling and fielding of Derbyshire were above the average . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 May, page 9)

The batting of the home county in this match at Derby yesterday was of a most feeble character. Here, as elsewhere, the wickets seemed to play altogether too fast for the batsmen. At the close of the first day's play each side had completed an innings, the visitors having an advantage of 52 runs.

Few people thought that this number would be sufficient to decide the match. Yet such it proved. The wicket was so dangerous as almost to frighten the batsmen. Six of the team were dismissed for 24, when Storer made eight by two drives off Bowley, and the total was advanced to 40 for the seventh wicket. The last three only added six runs, the innings closing for 46. Beaumont's analysis is noteworthy. From the complete score attached it will be seen that Surrey won by an innings and six runs.

24 May: WARWICKSHIRE v LEICESTERSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128266.html)

Day 1 (no report found from Friday 25 May, page 7)

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 May, page 9)

Two days proved sufficient to bring this county match to a close at Edgbaston. Collishaw played a remarkably fine innings of 145 for Warwickshire on the opening day, and Law also batted freely. Leicestershire, who had to follow on, were defeated yesterday by an innings and 131 runs.

28 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3318.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 May, page 7)

The Yorkshire team, after their discouraging experiences of the past week at the hands of the Australians and Middlesex, entered on their annual engagement with the University at Cambridge yesterday.

Having won the toss, the county, at 12.10, took possession of a good wicket. Their start was most disastrous, as they lost Ulyett and Hall in three overs. Harrison made seven by two cuts, but was then secured at wicket. Peel and Lee did better against the bowling of Messrs Woods and Ford. The score was taken to 43, when Peel was dismissed by a fine catch at mid-off.

Preston joined Lee, who batted in a very free style. He was well aided by the former, and subsequently by Moorhouse. Thirty runs resulted from the latter partnership, and Lee was taken at wicket. Wainwright and Moorhouse played well and put on 53. The latter gave a couple of chances after he had scored 22 – one at point and the other at slip. Wainwright was thrown out by Mr Buxton. The innings ultimately realized 172.

Messrs Mordaunt and Gosling opened the light blue account. The former gained 60 out of 82 before a wicket fell; among his hits were a five, eight fours, a three &c. Messrs Gosling, Buxton and Ford were disposed of in successive overs from Peel. Mr Woods quickly made 17, and at the downfall of Mr Cotterill's wicket stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 May, page 7)

The closeness of the results in the first three innings of this match at Cambridge was rather curious, as there were only nine runs difference in them. On Monday evening Yorkshire had completed an innings for 172, and seven of the University wickets were down for 108.

The game was continued at 20 minutes to 12 yesterday, Mr Kemp (not out four) then having Mr Meyrick-Jones for a partner. Peel and Preston were intrusted with the bowling, and at 121 they crossed over. Mr Kemp then sent Peel well to leg for four. The total was steadily advanced to 135, when Preston handed the ball to Ulyett. Nine runs later Mr Kemp was disposed of by a return catch. Mr Meyrick-Jones hit freely, obtaining four fours in two overs from Ulyett. He could not get any one to stay with him, and the innings closed for 164.

Ulyett and Hall were the first in for the county, but at 21 the former was dismissed. Harrison and Peel were both disposed of for an addition of five, and Lee joined Hall. These batsmen put on 43 before the latter played on. Neither Preston nor Moorhouse gave much trouble; the former was caught at cover-point and the latter at point. The score reached 122 for the ninth wicket. Lee and Creighton then batted well, and 41 runs were added before the innings closed at 5 o'clock. Lee's not-out contribution included eight fours, six threes and five twos.

Cambridge wanted 172 to win. Messrs Mordaunt and Gosling kept up their wickets for an hour and 20 minutes, when stumps were drawn for the day.

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

So successful have the Light Blue team been in their matches up to the present that their supporters are already very sanguine of the contest at Lord's. For this early hopefulness they have very good reason in the excellent form shown by the Cambridge side and the fact that the play of Oxford has fallen below what was anticipated.

Yesterday the match between the University and Yorkshire was brought to a close. On Tuesday the home team had been put in to get 172 for victory, and Messrs Mordaunt and Gosling had obtained 63 without mishap, the former being not-out 32 and the latter 31. The game was continued at 20 minutes to 12, Peel and Creighton conducting the attack. The heavy rain during the night rendered the wicket slow.

With ten runs added Mr Mordaunt was bowled, and thus the first wicket fell at 73. Mr Rowell aided Mr Gosling. Both batsmen played with great care, and the score slowly travelled to 85. Creighton now gave up the ball to Preston, and shortly afterwards Mr Gosling gave a chance to the wicket-keeper. At 92 Preston bowled Mr Rowell's middle stump, and Mr Kemp joined Mr Gosling. At 114 Mr Gosling was taken at slip for an excellent innings of 61; his chief hits were six fours, four threes and six twos.

Messrs Ford and Meyrick-Jones were soon disposed of; but after a shower of rain, Messrs Buxton and Kemp, who were then partners, increased the score by 36 during the time they were together. At 158 Mr Buxton was caught at slip, and then Messrs Wood and Kemp quickly hit off the remaining runs. Thus Cambridge gained a most creditable victory by four wickets. This was the third consecutive defeat of the Yorkshire team.

28 May: GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3319.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 May, page 7)

The Australian records against the Gentlemen of England have left a slight balance in their favour. Out of the six engagements under this title – which, by the way, has always found great favour with the public – they have won three and a fourth was drawn.

More than the usual difficulties were experienced in selecting a team to play at Lord's yesterday. During the past few years the bowling of the amateurs has not kept pace with their batting. Yet even this fact, coupled with the recent defeat of the Australians, did not rob the first representative match of its interest. The Gentlemen's team was composed entirely of those who would be qualified under the title of Gentlemen of the South. The eleven was made up before the Rev Mr Napier had achieved so great a success at Manchester, while Mr A G Steel's appearance in public is so rare that his ability to take part in the encounter would not seem to have been reckoned upon. Both the Universities were engaged against important counties. The position which Surrey holds was clearly marked by the fact that they had all the amateurs of their team – five in number – in the eleven. Gloucestershire had three representatives, and Kent, Middlesex and Sussex one each.

Several thousand spectators were present at Lord's yesterday quite an hour before the time fixed for beginning play. These were well distributed over what now forms a double field. The practice nets at the recently acquired nursery serve admirably as a relief to the match ground. The Australians had decided to leave out Messrs Lyons and Boyle, the latter fielding for Mr M'Donnell, one of whose fingers was severely bruised during his batting. Mr Bannerman, who has not appeared since the Surrey match, was still lame.

After the fall of this batsman's wicket Messrs M'Donnell and Jones batted so well that there seemed every likelihood of the Australian making a great stand against the reputed weak bowling. As will be seen, however, this did not prove to be the case. Mr Bowden, whose play for Mr Vernon's team in Australia seems to have greatly improved him, kept wicket in a manner which agreeably surprised those who had feared the deficiency of the home side in this particular.

Dr Grace and Mr Shuter gave a brilliant display of batting. At one time the closeness of the scoring between them formed an amusing piece of by-play for the spectators. They each reached 40 and then 46 together. It now became a question who would first head Mr Rashleigh's 48 at Oxford – the best score hitherto made against the colonists. This was accomplished by the Gloucestershire captain, whose batting was as masterly as ever, while he scarcely let a ball pass him. He obtained his last 50 of the day in half-an-hour.

The Marylebone Club acted in the liberal manner worthy of its traditions. The whole of the covered terraces at the top of the ground were thrown open unreservedly to the public. At one time during the afternoon there must have been over 12,000 persons present. The company included Prince Christian, Prince Christian Victor, the Duke of Buccleuch (president of the Marylebone Club) . . . [etc.].

A little before 12 o'clock the word was passed round that the Australians had won the toss, and the appearance of the Gentlemen from the pavilion precisely at noon made this an established fact.

Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman were the first representatives of the Australians. Mr Smith opened the bowling from the nursery end with his field thus: - Dr W G Grace, point; Mr Shuter, cover-point; Mr Patterson, deep mid-off; Mr Newnham, mid-off; Mr Buckland, slip; Mr Roller, extra-slip; Mr Key, third man; Mr Radcliffe, mid-on; Mr Read, long-on.

Mr M'Donnell received the first over, which proved a maiden. Mr Buckland had charge of the attack at the pavilion end, his field being disposed as follows: - Dr Grace, point; Mr Shuter, cover-point; Mr Roller, mid-off; Mr Radcliffe, extra mid-off; Mr Smith, slip; Mr Read, third man; Mr Newnham, short leg; Mr Patterson, mid-on; Mr Key, long-on. Mr M P Bowden kept wicket.

Mr Bannerman cut Mr Buckland for two, while his captain obtained a like number for a drive from the other end. Mr Bannerman cut a ball between Dr Grace's legs to the boundary, and Mr M'Donnell, after a piece of good fielding by Mr Shuter at cover-point, drove Mr Smith for a couple. In the next over Mr Bannerman had the misfortune to play on. He did this in attempting to cut the ball, which glanced off the edge of his bat on to the wicket. The early dismissal of so dangerous a batsman raised the hopes of those who feared a big innings by the Australians.

Mr Jones aided his captain. Fine fielding on the part of Mr Patterson in the deep field was loudly applauded. Twenty runs resulted from as many minutes' play, and with the addition of eight singles the bowling underwent a change, Mr Newnham superseding Mr Smith. This alteration produced anything but the desired effect, for in the first over there were two leg-byes and hits for four and three to leg by Mr M'Donnell. Runs were added fast and 40 were recorded in 35 minutes. Mr Jones now cut Mr Newnham late for four, and at 47 the attack was again varied – Mr Radcliffe for Mr Buckland. Mr M'Donnell, with a cut for three, completed the 50 at a quarter to 1. He next drove Mr Newnham for two, but then received a bad hit on the hand which caused some delay.

On resuming, Mr Jones obtained a couple in the slips and four by a cut, and subsequently he played Mr Radcliffe to leg for three and cut the other bowler for four. Dr W G Grace was greeted with loud cheers when, at 68, he went on to bowl himself in lieu of Mr Newnham. Cuts for three and four by Mr Jones were the chief items in the next few overs, but at 83 the batsmen were at length separated; Mr M'Donnell was splendidly caught by Mr Buckland high up, running from mid-off. Included in his 41 were two fours, three threes and four twos.

When Mr Trott arrived Mr Jones gave a difficult chance to Mr Buckland in the same position that the latter had dismissed Mr M'Donnell. He had then made 36. This mistake seemed likely to prove expensive, for Mr Jones continued his clean hitting. He scored two and three by drives and three by a leg hit. Mr Trott seemed much puzzled by Dr Grace's bowling; but at half-past 1 an off-drive by him for four caused the 100 to appear amid cheers. Mr Jones obtained a three in the slips, but directly afterwards the players attempted an almost impossible run. For this Mr Trott paid the penalty; the ball was splendidly returned by Mr Shuter to the wicket-keeper, who took it very cleverly and smartly displaced the bails. Three for 105.

Mr Bonnor arrived and Mr Jones completed his 50 at 20 minutes to 2. However, at 112 a very good ball from Dr Grace completely beat Mr Bonnor, and four wickets were down for 112. Mr Blackham, who came next, at once began to hit freely and, by driving Mr Radcliffe for two twos and a single, he caused that bowler to give way to Mr Smith at 121. Mr Jones cut the latter for three, but at 126 Mr Blackham was clean bowled, and a single later a yorker from Mr Smith sent back Mr Turner. Thus the character of the game had much altered, for in 20 minutes four wickets had fallen for an addition of 22. The interval for luncheon now intervened, the score being 127 for six wickets.

Mr Jarvis accompanied Mr Jones at a quarter to 3 to the wicket. Dr Grace and Mr Smith were again the bowlers. Seven maidens were sent down, and the largest item in the next three overs was a drive for two by Mr Jarvis, who, however, then hit Mr Smith to leg for four. At 145 Mr Jones's excellent innings was brought to a close by a remarkably well-judged catch at long-off. He had been in precisely two hours and had shown fine defence; his chief hits were three fours, four threes and eight twos. Seven for 145.

Mr Ferris joined Mr Jarvis, who obtained four by a cut. The former played with caution at first, in subsequently in two overs he twice drove the ball from Dr Grace over the ring among the spectators. By these hits he obtained eight. Mr Jarvis played Dr Grace to leg for four, but at 173 a yorker from Mr Smith bowled Mr Ferris's leg stump. Eight down. The end soon came. Only a single was added when Mr Jarvis was bowled, while at 179 a catch at cover-point disposed of Mr Worrall and brought the innings to a close. Time, 3.40.

Shortly before 4 o'clock Dr W G Grace and Mr Shuter took up their positions at the wicket. Mr Turner from the pavilion led off the attack, his field being as follows: - Mr Trott, point; Mr Edwards, cover-point; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr Worrall, extra mid-off; Mr Bonnor, slip; Mr Ferris, third man; Mr Jarvis, short-leg; Mr Jones, long-on; Mr Boyle (substitute for Mr M'Donnell), mid-on; and Mr Blackham, wicket-keeper. Dr Grace played the first over very cautiously, and it proved a maiden.

Mr Ferris conducted the bowling from the nursery end, the fieldsmen being disposed thus: - Mr Trott, point; Mr Edwards, cover-point; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr Worrall, extra mid-off; Mr Jarvis, long-off; Mr Boyle, short-leg; Mr Jones, third man; Mr Turner, slip; Mr Bonnor, mid-on; and Mr Blackham, wicket-keeper.

Mr Shuter played Mr Ferris to leg for two, while Dr Grace drove Mr Turner to the on for four. Each batsman made a drive for a couple, after which the Gloucestershire captain gained two fours and a two by drives from Mr Turner. Mr Shuter also scored two threes by drives, and Dr Grace hit Mr Ferris to square-leg for four and drove the other bowler all along the ground with a like result. Mr Jones relieved Mr Turner at 42, but the rapid scoring continued. Mr Shuter secured four by a drive, and a couple of fours (square-leg and on-drive) by Dr Grace increased the total to 50 at 4.35. Singles were the chief items for some time, but one of these was obtained at great risk, and had Mr Worrall returned the ball with more promptness Dr Grace might have been out.

Mr Turner resumed bowling at 66, but Mr Shuter hit him to leg for four each. Ten runs resulted from twice as many overs, and then Mr Trott at 91 relieved Mr Ferris. Dr Grace cut the new bowler for three, while later on his companion registered four by a leg hit. By this latter item Mr Shuter completed his 50 and sent the total up to 100 at 10 minutes past 5. Dr Grace increased his score to 50 directly afterwards. Mr Jones once more displaced Mr Turner, but each batsman made an off-drive for four from him, so that at 114 Mr Worrall was put on in his place. Mr Shuter drove and cut Mr Trott for three and four, but Dr Grace in the next few overs hit most brilliantly. He obtained three fours, a five (two by an overthrow) and two twos all by drives from Mr Worrall. These hits brought the score to 150 at 10 minutes to 6.

Three runs later Messrs Turner and Ferris resumed bowling, and the latter in his second over brought about the separation, Mr Shuter playing on. The partnership had lasted two hours with the result that 158 runs had been scored. Mr Shuter had played with all his well-known freedom for 71, in which were six fours, four threes and five twos.

Mr Patterson aided Dr Grace, who had now scored 85. He gained two by a cut and a single by a rather bad hit in the slips. Subsequently Mr Ferris appealed against him for leg-before, but the decision was "Not out," and then Dr Grace drove that bowler for four. There were slight traces of anxiousness about his play as he drew up to the three figures, but at length by a sharp run, Mr Patterson following well up, he increased his score to 100 amid unbounded enthusiasm.

He now played with all that brilliancy which had characterized his batting previously. He scored nine in an over from Mr Turner and the Australian total was passed at half-past 6. Dr Grace next cut and drove the same bowler for two and four, bringing on Mr Edwards in his place at 192. Drives for three and four by the English captain brought the score to 200 at 20 minutes to 7. Messrs Trott and Jones were both tried again, but Dr Grace continued his free hitting, and by a sharp run from the last ball of the day he increased his total to 150. Stumps were then drawn.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 May, page 7)

Regret that a match so full of interest should have been limited to two days will be the dominant feeling among cricketers. Clashing as it does with the Derby, it would have been far better to have fixed the first representative contest in some week when three days were available.

Rarely has there been such a variety of good batting as that displayed at Lord's on Monday and yesterday. It is some years since Dr W G Grace played so perfect an innings and great astonishment was expressed that a batsman should retain his power over such excellent bowling in so great a degree as that shown by him. Mr Read's batting was vigorous, but he gave more than one chance to Mr Blackham, who, however, ultimately dismissed him.

The innings, which began a little before 4 o'clock on the opening day, was over within a few minutes of the same hour yesterday. When the Australians started their second venture with the heavy burden of 311 runs upon them, they had of course simply to keep their wickets intact to save the game. With such an astute tactician as Dr W G Grace to manage the field and the effect anxiety has upon a percentage of batsmen this was not so easy a task as it might appear. Again, they had the fact before them that their previous venture had only lasted two hours and three-quarters.

It seemed somewhat strange for so free a hitter as Mr Bonnor to be sent in first. But he quite justified the choice. In fact his daring batting and the careful play of Mr Bannerman formed a complete contrast. He scored exactly four times as fast as his companion, for when the first hundred was signalled he was creditable with 80 of them. The weak point of the Gentlemen's team manifested itself, the bowling being completely mastered, and three hours were exhausted in taking one wicket.

As the game is left it would seem quite evident that the early victories of the Australians were by no means the result of accident. It was curious that, often as the colonial bowling was changed, the whole of the wickets fell to the two gentlemen whose reputation had preceded them and has hitherto been borne out.

Large as the attendance had been on Monday it proved larger yesterday, there being about 15,000 present. The grand stand and terraces were packed. Among the company were the Duke of Buccleuth . . . [etc.]. The weather held fine, though a cold wind blew across the ground.

Mr M'Donnell's injured hand prevented him entering the field with the rest of the side, and he again had Mr Boyle as a substitute. Loud cheers greeted the appearance of the batsmen Dr W G Grace and Mr Patterson (the not-outs with 150 and 11). Messrs Turner and Ferris had charge of the bowling. Dr Grace drove the first ball sent him for two, after which nothing but singles were added for some time. Neither batsman seemed quite at home with the bowling and the ball got past each more than once. Eight runs resulted from the first 10 overs.

Dr Grace then played Mr Turner to leg for two, but the next ball he sent dangerously close to Mr Trott at point. With a cut for two the home captain brought up 250 at 11.25. A single later an appeal against Dr Grace for obstruction was answered in the batsman's favour. Mr Patterson next scored three by a leg hit, but in the same over Dr Grace in attempting to drive sent the ball just wide of point. After Mr Patterson had sent Mr Ferris to leg for four, Dr Grace was missed from a hard left-handed return to Mr Turner. Up to his point he had scored 162. He then obtained three in two hits from Mr Turner, but his remarkable innings was brought to a close in the next over by an easy catch at slip.

The great English batsman had been in three hours and 40 minutes and had scored nearly two-thirds of the runs. His batting during the first three hours of his innings was characterized by all the brilliancy which has made his name so famous. Among his hits were a five, 18 fours, four threes and 19 twos. During his partnership with Mr Patterson 105 runs had been added in a little over an hour and a half.

Mr Read, who came in, at once grew busy. The first ball sent him he drove to the on-boundary, and in the next few overs he made drives for two fours and a two. However, when he had scored 18 he should have been caught by Mr Trott at point. Certainly the cut was very hard, but the ball went straight to the fieldsman. Mr Patterson, who had been playing with great care, now scored two by an off-drive and three by a fine leg hit. Mr Read cut Mr Turner for two, and then a sharp run of his was increased to five by an overthrow to the boundary by Mr Bonnor. This item completed the third hundred at a quarter past 12.

Mr Read played Mr Ferris to leg for three. At 306 the bowling was changed for the first time during the morning, Mr Trott relieving Mr Ferris. Mr Patterson scored three by a drive and Mr Read a single, and then Mr Turner handed the ball to Mr Jones. Four by an off-drive was registered by Mr Read while his companion obtained three by a like hit. In the same over Mr Read was appealed against in a most confident manner for stumping; he had gone out of his ground but just managed to get back in time. Both batsmen for a while hit vigorously. Mr Read scored two by drives and one by a cut, and Mr Patterson secured several twos by similar strokes. The Surrey amateur reached his 50 at 20 minutes to 1, after which Mr Ferris resumed bowling at 339. Mr Read, when he had obtained 53, might have been caught at wicket. Six runs later Mr Turner went on again at the pavilion end, and in his first over he bowled Mr Patterson. The old Oxford captain had played in his well-known style for 45, in which were one four, four threes and four twos. His stay at the wicket lasted two hours and 50 minutes.

Mr Radcliffe was next on the order. Mr Read cut Mr Ferris for four and 350 appeared at five minutes to 1. The rate of run-getting now slackened for a time, but Mr Radcliffe subsequently obtained four from a cut. When he had scored 67 Mr Read should have been stumped. Afterwards the score travelled steadily to 381, when Mr Jones was tried at the nursery end. Mr Read, however, drove him for three and two, while a couple of cuts by the other batsman produced eight. Great enthusiasm was shown when 400 was announced at 1.40, Mr Read by a single completing this total. In Mr Jones's next over Mr Read obtained two and four by a cut and a drive; in the same over

brilliant fielding was shown by Mr Worrall at deep third man. Mr Trott displaced Mr Jones at 410, but in the next over from Mr Turner Mr Radcliffe had his leg stump upset. He had shown very good form for his 25, which he had scored out of 66 put on for the fourth wicket. Four for 411.

Mr Key arrived to the aid of Mr Read, who obtained four by a hard leg hit. A single to each batsman was followed by Mr Read with an off-drive for two completing his hundred, amid loud cheers. He soon drove Mr Turner for four, and at the interval the score stood at 423.

At a quarter to 3 Messrs Turner and Trott took up the bowling. Mr Read secured a three from each end. Afterwards Key made two drives for two, a leg hit for four and a cut for three, and within a few minutes of 3 o'clock 450 was signalled. Without alteration in the figures, however, Mr Read was very finely stumped. His innings of 109 had occupied two hours and 40 minutes. It was somewhat spoilt by the chances he had given, but, apart from these, his innings was a fine display of free hitting; his contributions included one five, ten fours, five threes and 15 twos. Half the wickets were now down for 450.

Mr Roller came in. Mr Trott handed the ball to Mr Ferris and, after Mr Key had obtained four by a drive and three in the slips, he dismissed Mr Roller lbw before the latter had scored. Mr Smith arrived to the assistance of Mr Key, who drove Mr Turner for four. Mr Smith then scored three fours from Mr Ferris, but in the next over from Mr Turner Mr Key was clean bowled. Seven for 473. Mr Buckland joined Mr Smith, who, after driving Mr Ferris for four, was bowled at 475. Ten runs later Mr Newnham was out in the same way, while at 490 a catch at slip disposed of Mr Buckland and terminated the innings at 3.40.

The Australians were left in a minority of 311, and as three hours were left for play there was a possibility of their losing the match. The Australians sent in Messrs Bonnor and Bannerman, and the innings began precisely at 4 o'clock. Dr Grace and Mr Smith (pavilion end) were the bowlers. Mr Bonnor obtained two by a leg hit, after which an appeal against him for obstructing his wicket was answered in the negative. In 16 overs 19 runs were scored. Each batsman then obtained a four, Mr Bonnor by a drive and Mr Bannerman by a leg hit. Mr Bonnor next drove Mr Smith for four, and caused that bowler to relinquish the ball to Mr Radcliffe at 23. Mr Bonnor drove the new bowler twice to the off boundary, but had not Mr Key misjudged the first of these he should have been caught. As it was, the fieldsman ran forward and the ball went over his head.

The Gentlemen paid dearly for this mistake. After each batsman had scored a three Mr Bonnor drove Mr Radcliffe twice for four, and at a quarter to 5 the 50 was telegraphed. Mr Bonnor drove Mr Radcliffe again straight to the spectators, and in his next over he obtained 12 by three drives. At 10 minutes to 5 Mr Bonnor by driving Mr Roller (who had relieved Dr Grace at 58) for three completed his 50, the score at that time standing at 61. Mr Buckland was put on in lieu of Mr Radcliffe at 75, but Mr Bonnor scored a four from each end, and at 87 Mr Walter Read went on with lobs in place of Mr Roller. Mr Bonnor, however, continued his brilliant hitting, and with three drives for four each he completed the 100 at 5.25.

Mr Newnham relieved Mr Buckland at 106, and nine runs later he also gave way to Mr Radcliffe. Still the pace of run-getting did not slacken. Mr Bonnor made four drives for two fours and two twos, and at 5.40 he reached his 100 amid loud cheers. Seven runs later he was nearly caught by Mr Patterson at long-on, but the latter had to run sideways to get near to the ball, which went to the boundary. Dr Grace resumed bowling at 143, and then Mr Bonnor again punished Mr Radcliffe. He drove him for four and two, but from the last ball of the over he was cleverly stumped for 119. His brilliant innings had lasted an hour and 50 minutes; among his hits were 18 fours, four threes

and nine twos.

Mr Jones arrived. He soon hit Dr Grace to leg for four. At 164 Mr Smith was put on, and at 170 Dr Grace gave way to Mr Roller. Mr Jones drove the latter to the off for four. Just previously Mr Patterson was loudly applauded for a smart piece of fielding at mid-off. Subsequently the play became slow, but at ten minutes to 7 an off-drive for four by Mr Jones brought 200 up. Mr Newnham displaced Mr Smith two runs later, but Mr Jones made two and four by drives, and he soon reached his 50. Stumps were then drawn and the match left unfinished, the Australians being 98 behind with nine wickets to fall. Mr Bannerman was in three hours, and had scored at an average of ten runs an hour. Mr Jones's chief hits were five fours, three threes and six twos. He had played in capital style for his runs.

28 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3320.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 May, page 7)

Three important omissions were made in the Lancashire team yesterday at Oxford from that which played against the Australians – the Rev Mr Napier, Mr A G Steel and Mr Hornby. The University eleven did not include Lord George Scott, Mr Bassett or Mr Cochrane.

The county began well with Barlow and Mr Jowett. The former batted with characteristic patience and was in over an hour for a dozen runs. Mr Jowett was run out at 41. Mr Eccles then aided Barlow. The score steadily advanced to 70, when the latter was caught at point. Briggs and Mr Jones were soon disposed of, and at the interval the score stood at 106.

Afterwards three wickets only added eight runs. Mr Eccles was the eighth to leave, caught at mid-off. Among his figures were a six (a square-leg hit over the ring), twelve fours and three twos. The last two wickets put on 31, the innings closing for 179.

Oxford did very badly at starting. Six of their batsmen were dismissed for 39. Later Messrs Philipson and Nepean improved matters and made 46 during their stay. The follow on was saved just before the fall of the ninth wicket.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 May, page 7)

The Dark Blues were unable to cope very successfully with the county bowling in this match. When stumps were drawn on Monday Lancashire had finished an innings for 179, and nine of the home wickets were down for 101. Yesterday play was resumed at ten minutes past 12, when the last Oxford wicket fell for two runs only.

With 76 on, Lancashire sent in Mr Jowett and Barlow, to the bowling of Messrs Forster and Smith. With the score at 14 only the professional was caught in the slips, and at 24 Mr Eccles, who had batted so well on the previous day, was out in the same manner. Briggs joined Mr Jowett and a most determined stand was made. Both batsmen hit with great vigour, and although the attack was varied the 100 went up at a quarter past 1. Mr Jowett was out in attempting a third run. The last wicket had added 100 in half the number of minutes. Mr Jowett hit a six, five fours, two threes and eight twos.

Briggs fell to a catch at slip with the score at 139; his hits were 13 fours, two twos and only a couple of singles. Six wickets were down for 152, and then Robinson and Mr Knowles were together. The former made two leg-hits for six each from Mr Croome, the ball going over the ring. He was eventually stumped at 199. The last few batsmen hit freely, and the total reached 255 before the tenth wicket fell at 4 o'clock.

Oxford were left with 332 to get for victory. They started well, as 50 went up with only two wickets down. Afterwards, however, with the exception of Messrs Rashleigh, Watson and Nepean, the side did little. The game was prolonged until a quarter to 7, when Lancashire were left the winners by 221 runs.

28 May: LEICESTERSHIRE v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128265.html)

With so many of their prominent players taking part in the match at Lord's, the Surrey team which visited Leicester yesterday was necessarily weak. The weather was cold and the cricket at the Aylestone-road Ground greatly aided the bowlers.

Leicestershire started the batting with Warren and Wheeler. The bowling underwent several alterations before they were parted. In an hour the score reached 56, and then Wheeler was taken at mid-off. Warren was caught in the slips at 91; he had been batting an hour and a half for 54, in which were four fours, seven threes and three twos. The innings closed at 20 minutes to four for 121.

So effective did the home bowling prove that an hour and a half was sufficient to dispose of the Surrey team for 81. Leicestershire went in again . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 May, page 7)

With slight exceptions neither of these counties showed good batting form at Leicester. On the opening day each completed an innings, and the home eleven, in a majority of 40, lost three wickets for 20. Yesterday Mr Marriott, the overnight not-out, saw the rest of his side dismissed for the meagre total of 69, nearly half of which were from his own bat.

Surrey were put in with 110 to get for victory. Read and Henderson put on 25 runs, and then three wickets fell. Abel batted well, but with his dismissal seven were out for 68. Bowley and Beaumont added 22, but Boxall gave no trouble, and when Huish, the last man, arrived to the assistance of Bowley, 20 runs were still required. Pougher, with a capital ball, dismissed Huish when he had made three, and thus, after an exciting finish, Surrey were beaten by 11 runs.

31 May: LANCASHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3321.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 1 June, page 11)

Sussex are showing great batting powers this season. Yesterday they visited Manchester and played the home team, which did not include Mr Hornby, Mr Jowett or Pilling.

Sussex won the toss and went in. Tester and Quaife were opposed by Briggs and Barlow. Before a run had been scored both batsmen were bowled. Messrs Newham and M'Cormick became partners and soon made up for these early losses. Careful play was shown, 50 minutes being expended in getting 35. The run-getting was then accelerated and, despite the changes brought against them, the total was advanced to 87 before Mr M'Cormick fell to the wicket-keeper; he had obtained most of the runs, and his chief hits were ten fours, four threes and three twos. J Hide assisted Mr Newham in carrying the score to 98 at the luncheon interval.

The 100 was quickly completed on resuming, and 27 more were added before Hide was bowled. Four down. Humphreys joined Mr Newham. Both played in excellent form and soon had the mastery over the attack. This was altered frequently, but the partnership yielded no fewer than 131 runs. Mr Newham was then dismissed; he had been at the wickets four hours and had not given a chance. Among his hits were 11 fours, six threes and 16 twos. Five for 258. Humphreys continued to bat well and remained unconquered, the last half of the wickets having only added 22. It is curious that with such a heavy total as 280 five of the side did not contribute to it. It will be seen from the fact that Briggs took nine of the wickets that the county could ill afford to spare him, even for the representative match.

Lancashire sent in Mr Crosfield and Barlow, who remained together until the close of the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 2 June, page 15)

Great determination was shown by Lancashire in their uphill game against Sussex at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday. The close of Thursday's play left Sussex with the heavy score of 280. Against this the home side had made 33 without the loss of a wicket.

At ten minutes to 12 Mr Crosfield and Barlow (the not-outs with 21 and 10) continued their batting. Humphreys and A Hide shared the attack. Runs were added steadily, and at 59 Mr Smith relieved Humphreys. The alteration soon caused Mr Crosfield to play the ball into the hands of slip. Mr Eccles aided Barlow. The bowling was again changed at 78, J Hide superseding his brother. Barlow was caught in the slips at 85, and two other batsmen were speedily disposed of – Mr Eccles, bowled, and Briggs, caught at wicket. Four for 99. Mr Kemp and Robinson took the score to 129, when the latter fell to a catch at slip. The last five wickets only added 21, and the innings closed at ten minutes to 3 for 150.

Lancashire, who were 130 behind, followed on. Their start was most disheartening, as three wickets went for 22 – Mr Crosfield caught at slip, Mr Eccles leg before wicket and Mr Kemp played on. Barlow and Briggs soon brought about a change in the attack. The score reached 89 prior to the former obstructing his wicket. With Ward as a partner, Briggs, who had recently given a chance at third man, continued to hit vigorously. The 100 went up a little before 5 o'clock; but,

after Mr M'Cormick had been put on, Ward was quickly secured at cover-point. Five for 111.

Robinson joined Briggs, and by 25 minutes past 5 the arrears had been hit off. The former was dismissed at 142, and a catch at third man sent back Hudson. Mr Jones arrived to the assistance of Briggs, and the pair played out time.

Day 3 (report from Monday 4 June, page 13)

So heavy was the scoring of Sussex in this match at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, that Lancashire had to follow on. Play began on Thursday, and when stumps were drawn on Friday the game was left as follows: - Sussex, 280; Lancashire, 150 and 228 (seven wickets), Briggs, not out, 126 – total, 378. Rain was so continuous on Saturday that after waiting until 4 o'clock it was decided to abandon the match.

31 May: MIDDLESEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3322.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 1 June, page 11)

Although Kent were without the services of Messrs W H Patterson and M C Kemp of their amateurs, and A Hearne and Walter Wright of their professionals, they sent a team of considerable strength to Lord's yesterday. Middlesex, also, did not play Mr F G J Ford, Mr A P Lucas or Mr E A Nepean.

Play began at noon, F Hearne and Mr Atkins first occupying the wickets for the visitors. Mr Buckland and Burton were the early bowlers. When only five had been made the former found the way to Mr Atkins's wicket. One down. G G Hearne joined his brother and both batsmen played with confidence. F Hearne scored a little the faster of the two. The bowling underwent eight variations; but this did not prevent the 100 being reached at 25 minutes to 2, while the companionship was unbroken at the interval, with the total at 135.

Afterwards Mr Buckland and Burton had charge of the bowling, and when five had been added the latter got F Hearne out leg-before-wicket. His 78 was made up by clean hitting, and his chief figures were 12 fours, two threes and eight twos. Two for 140. Mr Tonge came to the assistance of George Hearne, and runs were obtained steadily until 16 were put on, when Mr Buckland gave way to Mr Webbe, who bowled G Hearne at 164. He had batted carefully, and among his hits were seven fours, two threes and seven twos.

Mr Wilson had the misfortune to play the ball on, while Lord Harris, who made his first appearance in a match of importance this season, was run out, and half the wickets were down for 178. Messrs Tonge and Marchant were next associated, and raised the score to 20 at five minutes past 4. Fourteen runs later Mr Marchant was bowled. At 225 Mr Tonge, who had batted well, was caught at cover-slip, and a catch by the wicket-keeper at once dismissed Wootton. Mr Hedley and Martin hit with freedom, and it was not until a quarter past 5 that the innings closed for 271.

Middlesex started batting; but so far as they had proceeded when stumps were drawn a follow-on seems inevitable.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 2 June, page 15)

When stumps were drawn at Lord's on Thursday evening, Kent had completed an innings for 271 and the home county had lost seven batsmen for 81 only. The game was resumed soon after 11 o'clock yesterday, and the three outstanding wickets were captured for an addition of 16. Total 97.

With a heavy deficit of 174, Middlesex opened their second venture with Messrs Webbe and Buckland. The attack was intrusted to Mr Hedley and Wootton. Neither of the batsmen stayed long. Mr Hedley tempted Mr Buckland to return him the ball, and the same bowler dismissed Mr Webbe. Two for 16.

Messrs Scott and Walker became associated and played so steadily that the score reached 46. A double change in the attack was adopted, F Hearne and Martin bowling. Mr Scott narrowly escaped being stumped. At 59 Mr Walker was bowled and Mr Paravicini arrived. Both batsmen hit with

freedom. The 100 was completed at 1.45 but, with an addition of 10, a catch at slip dismissed Mr Paravicini.

After luncheon Mr Hadow proved an able companion to Mr Scott. The bowling tactics were changed, but the batsmen were for a long time not Albert Trott all disconcerted. At 25 minutes to 4 the single innings defeat was averted. Runs came at such a rate that 70 were recorded as the result of an hour's play. Mr Hadow was then bowled and half the wickets were lost for 180. Mr Scott continued to bat vigorously, and when the 200 was signalled he was credited with precisely half the number. He could get no one to stay with him and the last wicket fell for 226. Mr Scott had been batting four hours; his chief hits were 12 fours, eight threes and 12 twos.

Kent now required 53 for victory, and Lord Harris and Mr Wilson started getting them. The latter returned the ball at 19, and two other wickets were lost before the winning hit was made. Lord Harris carried out his bat for 29. From the complete score it will be seen that Kent were victorious by seven wickets.

31 May: PLAYERS v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3323.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 1 June, page 11)

With so formidable a team as the professionals are capable of putting into the field, the match against their powerful colonial rivals was invested with great interest. Surrey furnished four of the eleven – viz., Maurice Read, Abel, Lohmann and Wood; Nottinghamshire sent Barnes, Gunn and Flowers; Yorkshire, Ulyett, Peel and Preston; and Kent, Walter Wright. It had been intended to include Briggs, but as Lancashire were engaged against Sussex, the county, of course, had first claim on his services. As it was, the Players, besides being strong in batting, had eight bowlers of the first rank. The Australians were weakened by the inability of Mr M'Donnell to play, and Mr Boyle stood out of the eleven. During the afternoon about 8,000 people visited Kennington Oval.

Ulyett won the toss and elected to go in on a very good wicket. Within a few minutes of noon he opened the English batting with Abel. Mr Ferris began the bowling from the gasometer end, his field being disposed as follows: - Mr Trott, point; Mr Jones, cover-point; Mr Jarvis, slip; Mr Turner, third man; Mr Edwards, short leg; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr Lyons, long-off; Mr Bonnor, mid-on; Mr Worrall, extra mid-off; Mr Blackham, wicket. The first over proved a maiden.

Mr Turner had charge of the attack at the pavilion wicket, his fieldsmen being placed thus: - Mr Trott, point; Mr Edwards, cover-point; Mr Worrall, mid-off; Mr Bannerman, long-off; Mr Lyons, mid-on; Mr Jarvis, slip; Mr Bonnor, third man; Mr Ferris, short-leg; Mr Jones, long-on; Mr Blackham, wicket.

Ulyett was credited with the first item – a single – after which Abel scored three by a drive and four by a square-leg hit, but then the scoring became difficult. Each player obtained a couple by a drive. Seven overs were sent down for eight runs, and 20 appeared of the telegraph board after 25 minutes' play. Ulyett drove Mr Ferris to the off for four, and a drive by the other batsman realized the same number. A few overs later Ulyett gave Mr Ferris a hard return chance when he had scored nine. Forty went up at ten minutes to one, and then half a dozen maidens were sent down. With his figures at 14 Ulyett sent the ball just over the bowler's head for a couple. At ten minutes past 1 50 was registered, and three runs later the bowling underwent the first change, Mr Trott relieving Mr Ferris. Six runs were scored in five overs, and at 59 Mr Jones superseded Mr Turner. In his fourth over Mr Trott got Ulyett splendidly caught at point. The batsmen had been together nearly an hour and a half for 63. Ulyett had played with much more patience than generally characterizes his cricket. One down.

With only a single added Abel was clean bowled, and two wickets were lost for 64. When Gunn came in Mr Turner resumed bowling in place of Mr Jones, and with his second ball he sent the new batsman's off stump out of the ground. Three wickets were now down for 65, and then the aspect of the game had greatly altered. Peel joined Barnes. The former cut each bowler for four, and subsequently he played Mr Trott to the square-leg boundary. In his next over Barnes cut and drove the ball to the ring, and when the interval arrived the score was 87 for three wickets.

Messrs Turner and Trott were again the bowlers after the interval. Peel cut the latter for three and two, and later on, by a drive for four, he completed the 100 at ten minutes to 3. Mr Ferris received the ball from Mr Trott at 113, but Peel at once drove him for four. After three maiden overs the Yorkshireman drove Mr Turner to the off for four, and Barnes cut the other bowler for two. In Mr

Turner's next over two wickets were captured. Peel was easily caught and bowled for an excellent 38, the result of an hour's play. A further misfortune quickly befell the Players, for from the second ball sent him Read was out leg-before. Five for 128.

Lohmann came in. Four singles resulted from half a dozen overs, and the score was slowly advanced to 143, when Barnes fell to a catch at mid-on, and Flowers joined Lohmann. Three maiden overs were bowled, after which two twos by Lohmann increased the total to 150 at five minutes past 4. Without alteration in the figures Flowers was bowled, and Preston arrived to the aid of Lohmann. The batsmen played very carefully. Subsequently Preston cut and drove Mr Ferris for four and two, and Lohmann secured two twos by drives. At 163 Mr Ferris handed the ball to Mr Trott, and from his second ball Preston was slyly caught by Mr Ferris running from mid-on. Eight for 164. Wood, who came next, at once began to hit freely. He made three fours by a cut, a drive and a square-leg hit, while a cut by Lohmann produced three. Mr Ferris resumed bowling again at 188, and he dismissed Lohmann before a single had been added. Nine down.

Wright and Wood were now together. Both for a time hit freely, and a cut for three by Wood caused the second hundred to appear at 20 minutes to 5. Runs were added steadily, and at 212 another change in the attack was adopted, Mr Trott once again being out on in lieu of Mr Ferris. Nine runs later Mr Jones displaced Mr Turner. This latter change should have been successful, for in the first over Wright was missed at slip by Mr Jarvis. He had then scored 12. Wood hit Mr Trott to leg for four, causing that bowler to relinquish the ball to Mr Ferris at 225. Wood next drove the latter to the boundary, but at 231 he was well caught at third man, and the innings thus closed. Wood, who was the highest score for the side, hit five fours, four threes and four twos. Time, 5.20.

At a quarter to 6 Messrs Bonnor and Bannerman opened the Australian innings. Lohmann led off the attack from the pavilion end, with his field thus: - Ulyett, point; Peel, cover-point; Barnes, slip; Wright, extra slip; Read, third man; Preston, mid-off; Abel, long-off; Flowers, mid-on; Gunn, long-on; Wood, wicket. Bannerman obtained a couple, and then Preston bowled from the other end. The positions of his field were: - Ulyett, point; Peel, cover-point; Barnes, slip; Wright, mid-on; Read, mid-off; Lohmann, extra slip; Abel, third man; Flowers, extra mid-off; Gunn, long slip; Wood, wicket.

Mr Bonnor cut Preston for two, and by off and on drives from Lohmann he obtained eight. Later on he cut Preston for four, but at 25 he was cleverly caught by Read running from third man. Mr Jones came in, and Peel at once received the ball from Preston. In his first over the new bowler with a splendid ball completely beat Mr Bannerman, and two wickets fell for 25. Four runs later Mr Jones was out to another capital catch by Read at third man, after which Messrs Jarvis and Trott played out time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 2 June, page 15)

The easy defeat of the Colonials at the hands of the Players is of course a far greater blow to them than their first reverse a week ago. Especially is this the case when the previous contests with the Players are considered. In these the Australians have been particularly fortunate.

In 1878 the first team won an exciting match at the Oval by eight runs and drew a second game at Prince's. Mr Murdoch's Eleven won the match in 1880 and the Crystal Palace by two wickets. In 1882, however, the Players gained a decisive victory by an innings and 34 runs. Twice in 1884 the Australians won – at Sheffield by six wickets and at the Oval by nine wickets. The last team played

matches against the Players at Nottingham and at Bradford, but both were drawn. Thus out of eight contests the Australians had only been once beaten before the present occasion.

It rarely happens that a team possesses such a variety of bowling talent as that of the Players. Ulyett also captained them well, and it may be some consolation to our visitors to reflect that it would be difficult to find an eleven to withstand such a combination. Excellent as the Australian fielding had been on Thursday, it was certainly surpassed yesterday by the Players. The cleanness with which the ball was pitched up and its smart and accurate return repeatedly called forth the enthusiasm of the spectators.

The victory of the Players was certainly well merited. Barnes's bowling was most difficult, and his nine wickets cost rather less than seven runs each. Mr Bonnor's batting was also a feature and the catch which disposed of him in the second innings was one of those surprises which occasionally happen. This was the eighth match of the Australian tour and the whole of them have been decided in two days. There were again about 8,000 visitors to the Oval. At the close of Thursday the Players had finished an innings for 231 and three Australian wickets were down for 32.

Precisely at the time fixed (11.45) for the start Messrs Trott and Jarvis, the not-outs with 5 and 9, made their way to the wicket and were opposed by Lohmann and Peel. In the former's second over Mr Jarvis obtained four by a late cut, while his companion also scored the same number by a square-leg hit. Mr Jarvis, however, was easily taken at mid-off at 43, and Mr Turner arrived to the aid of Mr Trott.

For a time the cricket was very lively. Mr Turner cut Peel twice in one over to the boundary, which brought up the 50 at 10 minutes past 12. Several twos by Mr Turner were followed by a cut and a leg hit for four each by Mr Trott in an over from Peel. Mr Turner secured a two and a three, so that at 71 a change in the bowling was made, Wright superseding Peel. Three maidens ensued, and then Mr Trott cut Lohmann for three. In the next over, however, [Turner] was splendidly caught at point. Five for 75.

While Messrs Blackham and Trott were together the Australian prospects brightened. The former soon grew busy; he drove Wright for four and two and hit him to leg for a couple. Subsequently two cuts by Mr Trott produced eight. Smaller contributions increased the score to 100 by 20 minutes to 1. Two runs later Flowers relieved Wright. At first, this change was anything but successful, for Mr Trott drove the new bowler twice for four while Mr Blackham hit Lohmann to the leg boundary. The last-named, however, directly afterwards was easily taken at extra mid-off, and six wickets were down for 115.

Mr Ferris's stay was brief, as having obtained a couple he was bowled by a splendid ball from Flowers. The Australians' misfortunes did not end here, for after Mr Trott had driven Barnes for four Mr Worrall was splendidly bowled. Eight for 122. Mr Lyons, who came next, played very badly. He only stopped one over; from the first two balls he was nearly caught; the third he almost played on; and the fourth clean bowled him. Nine down. Mr Edwards, the last man, appeared; he made two and three by leg hits, but then Mr Trott was well caught at wicket and the innings closed for 127. Mr Trott had played in very good form for his 41, the result of an hour and a half's batting. He made eight fours and a two. Time 1.20.

Against a majority of 104 Messrs Bonnor and Bannerman went in a second time at 20 minutes to 2. Barnes (pavilion end) and Lohmann were the bowlers. Each opened with a maiden, but Mr Bannerman then cut Barnes for four and three. After six overs had been sent down for three singles

Mr Bonnor drove Lohmann for four. However, in the last over before luncheon, Mr Bannerman was caught at wicket, the total being 14.

The interval over, Barnes and Lohmann once more took charge of the bowling. Mr Blackham accompanied Mr Bonnor to the wicket, but his stay was short, for having hit Barnes to the square-leg boundary he was easily caught at third man. Two for 18. Mr Jones came next, and the figures travelled slowly to 27, the only noticeable item being a square-leg hit for three by Mr Jones. The last-named was then beaten by a splendid ball from Lohmann.

With three of their best batsmen out and 27 only scored the Colonials, it was thought, would scarcely avert the innings defeat. Messrs Jarvis and Bonnor were then associated, and by careful play they slightly improved affairs. Twenty overs had been sent down for 13 runs when Mr Jarvis was cleverly caught at slip and Mr Trott arrived. Mr Bonnor drove Lohmann to the off for four, while a square-leg hit by his partner for the same number caused 50 to be recorded at 20 minutes to 4. The figures were unaltered when a catch low down at slip sent back Mr Trott, whose place was taken by Mr Turner.

A very fine cut by the last-named sent the ball to the boundary, and by a similar hit later on he also obtained four. Mr Bonnor, who had been playing with great care, now enlivened the game with a hard drive and a square-leg hit for four each. Both these were from Lohmann, so at 72 the Surrey bowler gave up the ball to Peel. Without addition a catch at mid-off dismissed Mr Turner, and a couple of runs later Mr Ferris was bowled, making seven wickets down for 74. Mr Worrall, who filled the vacancy, quickly began to hit with vigour. Having played Peel to leg for two, he punished Barnes to the extent of 11 in one over (two fours by drives and a three by a leg hit), and then he drove Peel for four.

At 95 Lohmann bowled in lieu of Barnes at the pavilion wicket. His first ball Mr Bonnor drove to the boundary, but in the same over the Australian batsman was out to a hard return catch very low down. He had played with great care and had been in more than two hours for his 34. Eight for 99. Mr Edwards came in, and by a drive for two his companion increased the score to 100 at 4.35. A few minutes later Mr Edwards by a cut for three averted the single innings defeat. At 114 Mr Worrall was bowled and Mr Lyons was dismissed in the same way without addition. Time 4.50.

Abel and Ulyett went in to obtain the 11 runs necessary to give the Players the victory. Messrs Trott and Turner were the bowlers. Each batsman obtained four by a cut, and subsequently by a leg hit for two Ulyett won the match for the Players by ten wickets.

1 June: YORKSHIRE v LEICESTERSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128264.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 2 June, page 15)

In fine weather and on a good wicket a Yorkshire eleven were seen to great advantage at Huddersfield yesterday; this, too, in spite of the fact that three of the prominent players were taking part in the Oval match.

Having won the toss, the home county went in and occupied the wickets until 5 o'clock. Mr Day, Lee and Win batted freely, and when the sixth batsman was dismissed the score stood at 218. The last four wickets only put on 16, the innings realizing 234.

Leicestershire offered a very weak resistance to the attacks of Creighton and Wade. Warren went in first and obtained more than half the entire number of runs made from the bat, the last wicket falling at 61. Leicestershire followed on against a majority of 173 . . .

Day 3 (report from Saturday 2 June, page 15)

Play in this match began at Huddersfield on Friday. Yorkshire then completed an innings for 234. Leicestershire were all out for 61 and, having followed on, two of their wickets were down in their second venture for 27. Rain fell so persistently in Saturday that the match could not be proceeded with, and the result was a draw.

4 June: MIDDLESEX v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3324.html)

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

So far this season the play of the Lancashire Eleven has been of a somewhat fluctuating character. Yesterday they appeared at Lord's and began the first of their engagements with Middlesex. Messrs A G Steel and G Jowett were absent from the Lancashire side, while Middlesex were weakened by the inability of Messrs Lucas, Nepean and O'Brien to play.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 June, page 14)

At Lord's yesterday the match between the home county and Lancashire was brought to a close. The drawing of stumps on Monday left the game in an even condition, as Lancashire, having gone in a second time with a deficit of 63, had scored 107 for the loss of only one wicket. Yesterday Lancashire won by 24 runs.

4 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3325.html)

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

One of the most interesting matches of the season in the Midland counties – viz., that between the Colonials and Nottinghamshire – began yesterday at Trent-bridge, Nottingham. This ground is memorable as that on which the first Australian match ever played in England was decided ten years ago. On that occasion Notts won by an innings and 14 runs.

Notts also defeated the second team by a wicket. Two matches were engaged in by the third team – one was drawn and the other the Australians won by 184 runs. In 1884, also, there were two matches, the first was drawn while the Colonials were victorious in the second by three wickets. The last team in 1886 played two matches, both of which were drawn.

There were over 5,000 spectators present yesterday when, although rain threatened at times, the weather kept fine. Mr M'Donnell injured finger prevented his playing, and Mr Jones appeared in the field while a few overs were bowled, but was then compelled to retire through indisposition, his place being taken by Mr Lyons. The county team included eight players who figured against the Australians in 1886. A capital wicket had been prepared and a good day's cricket was witnessed; the Australians fielded well and Mr Dixon batted brilliantly.

Within a few minutes of noon the Australians, who had lost the toss, entered the field; they were followed by Mr Dixon and Scotton. Messrs Turner and Ferris led the attack. The first five overs were maidens. Scotton then drove Mr Ferris to the on for a single, which was increased to four by an overthrow. Mr Dixon cut Mr Turner through the slips for three, and quickly added seven by an off-drive and cut from the same bowler; a further hit for four by Mr Dixon off Mr Ferris credited him with 13 runs out of 17. The 20 was reached after 35 minutes, the play having been very slow. Mr Dixon made an excellent drive to the pavilion, but a splendid ball of Mr Ferris then dismissed Scotton, who had been slightly injured in the fourth over of the match. One for 24.

Gunn appeared, and the total slowly travelled to 35, when Mr Ferris gave way to Trott. At 37 Gunn was easily caught at slip. Barnes sent Mr Trott to the leg boundary, but was soon given out to a doubtful catch at slip low down. Three for 42. Messrs Dixon and Daft became associated. The latter sent Mr Turner to leg for three, and his companion cut the same bowler finely to the boundary, which caused 50 to be signalled. Eleven runs later Mr Ferris resumed bowling for six overs, after which Mr Trott again relieved him. Mr Dixon made on and off drives for four each in subsequent overs of the change. At the interval 79 runs were recorded.

On resumed, Mr Dixon gave a hard return chance to Mr Turner when he had scored 40. A late cut for three put 50 to this batsman's credit, he having been at the wicket a little over two hours; he then cut Mr Turner to the ring, and at 94 the bowlers changed ends. Mr Dixon cut Mr Ferris in a very clean style for four, who shot the score up to the hundred. With the addition of half-a-dozen runs Mr Trott superseded Mr Ferris. Mr Dixon scored seven by a leg-hit and on-drive, and at 119 Mr Lyons, for the first time in England, was tried in the place of Mr Turner. The change quickly succeeded, as he caused Mr Dixon to be out leg-before. This gentleman had been batting two hours and 40 minutes, and his chief hits were ten fours, seven threes and five twos.

Flowers, the next comer, began with an on-drive for four from Mr Lyons, and Mr Daft cut the other

bowler late for three. The score having reached 145, Mr Ferris again bowled in lieu of Mr Trott; the separation was effected at the other end, however, as Mr Daft hit the ball back to Mr Lyons, who caught it with the right hand, rolling over in doing so. Half the wickets were now lost for 145. Mr Lindley came to the assistance of Flowers, who sent the ball twice to the off for four in an over from Mr Lyons. The last-named gave way again to Mr Turner, and the first ball Flowers hit to leg for four. He was then easily secured at wicket, having quickly put together 36. Six for 174.

Mr Lindley was caught at mid-on without alteration in the total, and Richardson joined Attewell. The latter should have been easily stumped at 182. Mr Turner was now bowling particularly well, and a single only was obtained in six consecutive overs. At 192 Richardson was clean bowled. Eight down. Shacklock came in, and Attewell had a square-leg hit for four from Mr Turner. The 200 was completed at 5 o'clock. Mr Trott relieved Mr Ferris, and dismissed Shacklock with a capital return catch, and the first ball sent him clean bowled Sherwin, the innings closing at 5.25 for a total of 215.

Messrs Bannerman and Bonnor opened the batting for the Colonials in a somewhat indifferent light at 20 minutes to 6. Attewell and Barnes were the bowlers. The start was not promising. Both the batsmen mentioned were well caught at the wicket – two for 20. Messrs Jarvis and Trott then became partners and played out time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 June, page 14)

Although the Colonials have now been engaged in nine matches, they have only had 18 days' play since their arrival in England. Their batting at Nottingham yesterday was most disappointing, especially as there was nothing to complain of in the wicket, which wore well throughout. Barnes and Attewell were very effective with the ball, and the fielding of the county was excellent.

Of course, the absent of Messrs M'Donnell and Jones from the team must have appreciably weakened the batting capacity of the Colonials, while the loss of the captaincy of the former was a further disadvantage. Yet the victory of Nottinghamshire was highly creditable. At one time during the morning Attewell bowled 12 overs, seven maidens, 16 runs and took five wickets. The weather was bitterly cold, but there were nearly 7,000 visitors to Trent-bridge.

Punctually at noon, the time arranged, Messrs Trott and Jarvis (the not-outs with 15 and 7) took up their stations at the wicket. Barnes and Attewell shared the bowling. Mr Jarvis drove the former to the off for four, but Attewell clean bowled Mr Trott with his second ball, and Mr Blackham, having come in, was served in the same manner by his third. Four for 41. Mr Turner who joined Mr Jarvis cut the ball sharp to Scotton to slip, who failed to hold it. Mr Jarvis then hit Barnes for three, which caused the 50 to be signalled at a quarter past 12. In the same bowler's following over Mr Jarvis was finely caught at long-slip. Mr Edwards came in and played the first ball and started to run. It was well fielded by Sherwin, who put his wicket down before he could recover his ground; five and six for 59.

Mr Worrall remained while his companion made three, and then obstructed his wicket. These misfortunes were followed by others for the Colonials. Before a run had been added Mr Turner was bowled off stump, and Mr Ferris fell to a catch at slip. Seven, eight and nine for 62. Messrs Lyons and Boyle added 14, and the latter was secured at wicket; total 76, the last eight wickets having been obtained for 39 runs.

Mr Lyons, the not-out of the first innings, began the Australians' follow-on at a quarter past 1 with Mr Bannerman. Attewell and Barnes again conducted the bowling. A single to each batsman was succeeded by an off-drive for three by Mr Lyons from Barnes, who then cut the same bowler and sent Attewell to leg for three each. Half an hour's play produced 19, and then Mr Lyons's middle stump was bowled for 11, the highest score he has yet made in England. Mr Trott aided Mr Bannerman. Both batsmen played with commendable care. Ten overs were sent down in as many minutes without a run having been scored, and at the interval 21 were recorded without further mishap. Soon after the resumption of play a splendid ball from Barnes struck the top of Mr Bannerman's off stump. Two for 27.

Mr Jarvis appeared, and the score steadily advanced to 43, when Barnes gave way to Shacklock. The opening over of the change was very productive; the first ball Mr Jarvis drove to the on, the third he sent to square-leg and the fourth he hit to leg; as the ball each time went to the boundary 12 runs were recorded. Flowers at once superseded Shacklock, and his second ball Mr Jarvis drove to the on for three, and in his following over the same batsman cut him for another three. Mr Jarvis then hit Attewell for four, but in the same over he was caught at slip, having made 35 very rapidly.

Mr Bonnor assisted Mr Trott and runs came at a tediously slow rate, three only being scored in ten overs. At 78 Mr Bonnor, who had not been playing Attewell's bowling with any confidence, was bowled off stump. Four for 78. Mr Trott, who had been batting well, was soon afterwards caught at mid-wicket. Five batsmen were now dismissed and 57 runs were still wanting to save the single innings defeat.

Mr Blackham and Mr Turner took the total to 100 at 20 minutes past 4. Richardson then relieved Attewell, and at 107 Flowers handed the ball to Barnes. In the last-named's first over Mr Turner made a cut for three and Mr Blackham an on-drive for four; the former then drove the ball to the off boundary. Eight were made by Mr Blackham in an over from Barnes by a square-leg hit and on-drive. This run-getting was checked at 134 by Mr Blackham being clean bowled. Six down.

Mr Worrall cut Richardson to the ring, which caused the 139 deficiency to be made up at a quarter to 5. Mr Turner was easily caught at third man, having batted carefully for 37. Seven for 152. Mr Ferris fell to an easy catch at wicket off Attewell, who had resumed bowling, and a weak drive to long-off dismissed Worrall, while Mr Boyle was soon caught at mid-off. This brought the innings to a close at a quarter past 5 for 165.

Notts now wanted 37 runs to win. Messrs Dixon and Daft went in to get them, and at a quarter past 6 a leg hit by Mr Daft to the boundary won the match for Notts by ten wickets.

4 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3326.html)

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

Dr W G Grace played a very fine innings for the Marylebone Club against the University at Oxford yesterday. A strong side was sent down from headquarters and a most interesting day's cricket resulted.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 June, page 14)

The batting of the Hon F J N Thesiger, last year's captain at Winchester, was a feature of yesterday's play in the match between the University and Marylebone at Oxford. He was in two hours and 20 minutes, and his 88 included 12 fours, three threes and seven twos.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 7 June, page 11)

During the three days over which the match between the University and Marylebone extended, the dark blues showed a marked improvement in their play all round. A strong eleven was sent down to Oxford from headquarters, but in spite of the absence of Messrs Forster and Cochrane, the University cannot be said to have had any the worst of the draw yesterday. At the close of Tuesday's play the visitors had begun their second innings against a majority of 48, and had lost one wicket (Mr Worsley's) for 23 runs. Frank Hearne and Wootton were the not-outs with 11 and 5 respectively.

Rain fell during the early morning, but it ceased in time for a start to be made at a quarter past 12. At luncheon time the score stood at 99. The bowlers, on resuming, were Messrs Croome and Wreford-Brown. Runs were scored rapidly, and though the attack was changed it was 20 minutes to 5 when the tenth wicket fell for 197.

Requiring 150 to win, Oxford went in a second time. As only an hour and a half remained for the contest the chance of the University securing this number was small. The wicket played treacherously and little headway could be made against the bowling. From the score subjoined it will be seen that when the game was left unfinished Oxford, with six wickets to fall, were 98 behind.

4 June: YORKSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3327.html)

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

Yesterday at Sheffield, Mr C A Smith, the captain of Sussex, won the toss and gave his rivals first innings, which closed at a quarter past 4 for 178. Sussex offered a very feeble resistance to their rivals' bowling . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 June, page 14)

Frequently Sussex play an excellent up-hill game, but yesterday at Sheffield, although they averted the follow-on, they were unable to save the match. Shortly before 6 o'clock Yorkshire secured the victory by 116 runs.

The Australian team have now played nine matches, and their averages up to the present are interesting. Mr M'Donnell heads the batting, while the two chief bowlers are close together as far as the number of wickets is concerned.

The results of the matches are: - Five won (against Mr Thornton's team, Warwickshire, Surrey, Oxford University and Yorkshire), three lost (against Lancashire, Players of England and Nottinghamshire) and one drawn (against the Gentlemen of England). The averages are subjoined:

BATTING AVERAGES

	Times		Runs	Most in an Inns	Aver.
	Inns	not out			
Mr P S M'Donnell (capt)	9	0	309	105	34.3
Mr S P Jones	11	1	274	61	27.4
Mr G J Bonnor	14	1	338	119	26
Mr H Trott	13	1	235	83	19.7
Mr C T B Turner	12	0	239	103	19.11
Mr J M'C Blackham	13	0	247	96	19
Mr A C Bannerman	10	1	153	43	17
Mr J Worrall	12	1	180	35	16.4
Mr J J Ferris	12	2	155	37*	15.5
Mr A H Jarvis	11	1	135	35	13.5
Mr J D Edwards	8	4	46	24	11.2
Mr H F Boyle	8	3	48	22	9.3
Mr J J Lyons	8	1	33	11	4.5

BOWLING AVERAGES

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Aver.
Mr J J Ferris	687	276	762	64	11.58
Mr S P Jones	68.3	19	134	10	13.40
Mr C T B Turner	629.3	297	836	61	14.32
Mr H Trott	119.3	39	267	9	29.3

7 June: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3328.html)

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

A very large attendance of spectators was present on the University ground at Cambridge yesterday to witness this match, which forms the tenth engagement of the Australian tour. The light blue eleven included four who played against Oxford last year – Messrs Thomas, Buxton, Ford and Hale.

Although Mr M'Donnell's finger is still very bad, he decided at the last moment to play, and Mr Boyle stood out of the colonial side. Mr Jarvis kept wicket for Mr Blackham.

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

Many thousand spectators visited the University ground at Cambridge yesterday to witness the continuation of this match. The Australians played an up-hill game in a very gallant manner and, of course, the interest taken as to whether the Colonials would save the follow-on was keen. This was not done until they had lost nine of their wickets, and shortly afterwards the innings closed for 266.

With a balance of 66 in their favour the Light Blues opened their second innings. The University began very badly and soon lost two of their wickets . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 11 June, page 13)

The match between the Australians and Cambridge University almost gives rise to the wish that the plan adopted in Australia of continuing an important match, even with Sunday intervening, could be adopted in this country. Most cricketers would like this contest, which extended over Thursday, Friday and Saturday on the University ground at Cambridge, to have been played out. When stumps were drawn on the second day each side had completed an innings, and the Light Blues, who were 66 runs to the good, had lost two wickets for 31.

On Saturday Messrs [Kemp] and Trouncer (the not-outs, with 7 and 6) continued their batting to the attacks of Messrs Turner and Ferris. The total was advanced to 60 when a double change was tried – Messrs Trott and Bonnor going on to bowl. Mr Trouncer was caught at slip off the latter, and Mr Buxton assisted Mr Kemp, who had an escape at slip. The score was then advanced to 131, when Mr Buxton was bowled, and Mr Kemp, who had batted well in both innings, was dismissed 13 runs later. Messrs Gosling and Ford remained together until after the interval; but at 186 Mr Ford was clean bowled. Six down. The next three wickets added 46, and as Mr [Hale] was unable to bat the innings closed for 232.

The Australians were now left with 299 to win; but of course this was an impracticable task with only a little over two hours left. At the close of the day the match was left drawn.

7 June: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3329.html)

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

The first of the season's matches between these counties opened yesterday at Gloucester. Having won the toss the home side went in on a rather treacherous wicket, but not sufficiently so to justify their giving the visitors first innings.

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

Owing to a heavy downpour of rain at Gloucester yesterday there was no play in this match. The game will be resumed to-day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 11 June, page 13)

During Friday and Saturday rain fell so fast at Gloucester that play in this match, which began on Thursday, could not be continued. The game was therefore drawn as follows: - Gloucester, 48; Lancashire, 232 for eight wickets.

7 June: MIDDLESEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3330.html)

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

With the exception that Mr C W Wright takes Mr J A Dixon's place, the Nottinghamshire eleven in this match at Lord's is the same that gained so decisive a victory over the Australians.

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

After their excellent display of batting at Lord's on Thursday, the Middlesex team bowled and fielded well yesterday, and again had the better of the day's play. When stumps were drawn the previous evening the home side had completed an innings for 317 and dismissed one of their opponents for two runs. Yesterday morning the game was continued. Notts in their first innings made 175, and had therefore to follow on.

Day 3 (report from Monday 11 June, page 13)

Stumps were drawn on Friday with the game greatly in favour of Middlesex, who had compelled their rivals to follow on and, having dismissed one of their opponents, were still 102 runs ahead.

Rain fell heavily at Lord's on Saturday morning and rendered the wicket heavy. The game was continued at ten minutes to 12, the not-outs – Gunn and Mr Daft – being opposed by Mr Robertson and Burton. The professional was caught in the long-field at 45, and after Mr Buckland had superseded Mr Robertson, wickets fell rapidly. Barnes was caught by slip at 66, and at 72 Mr Daft was cleverly caught at deep mid-off by Mr Vernon. He secured Attewell in like manner, and a single later caught Flowers low down at mid-off.

The other batsmen were quickly dismissed. Mr Lindley returned the ball at 76, two runs later Richardson was bowled, and 87 Scotton played on, and a catch at third man disposed of Shacklock. Middlesex thus gained the victory by an innings and 55 runs.

7 June: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3331.html)

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

A large company visited the Oval yesterday. In the Surrey team Mr Bowden, who had shown such good form in the Australian match at Lord's, took the place of Mr Roller. Yorkshire again played Moorhouse, Yeadon and Creighton, the most notable absentee being Hunter, whose injured hand prevents him taking part in the match.

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

There was a numerous company present at the Oval yesterday to watch what proved to be the concluding day's play in the match between Surrey and Yorkshire. The weather was uncertain, and after luncheon rain stopped play for an hour and a half. When stumps were drawn on Thursday the game stood greatly in favour of Surrey, who with only four wickets down were 125 runs ahead.

The innings closed for 356, of which Mr W Read made 103. He was three hours at the wicket, and his total included 14 fours, two threes and six twos. Mr Bowden also played well, and in his total of 70 were ten fours, five threes and three twos.

Yorkshire in their second innings could make no more than 135, and thus Surrey won the match by an innings and 117 runs. In Yorkshire's second innings Lohmann took five wickets for 37 runs and Beaumont three for 34.

Friday 8 June, page 10: THE TOUR OF THE PARSEES

GENTLEMEN OF ESSEX v PARSEES

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/184/184939.html)

Yesterday the Parsees began the first match of their tour at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, where they met the Gentlemen of Essex. The visitors won the toss and went in first. Several of the team batted in excellent style and gave the home bowlers much more trouble than was expected.

When Essex went in Messrs Boyton and Sewell scored 115 for the first wicket. Before another batsman was out the Parsees' score was headed,

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

This match was brought to a close at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday. The game was drawn.

11 June: MIDDLESEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3332.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 12 June, page 10)

Lord's was visited by a large company yesterday, when these counties, each of whom played a strong eleven, began the first of their matches.

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

During the past two days this match at Lord's has been productive of heavy scoring. Yesterday there was again a large attendance of spectators. On the previous evening the score stood thus: - Middlesex, 301; Gloucestershire, 147 for two wickets.

Mr Troup and Painter batted together for nearly three hours, and during that time by excellent cricket they put on 236 runs. It was a very fine performance, and was altogether unexpected. Rain thrice stopped the game yesterday . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 14 June, page 11)

This match was concluded at Lord's yesterday, when Gloucestershire won by eight wickets.

11 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PAST AND PRESENT v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3333.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 12 June, page 10)

The above match forms the eleventh of the Australian tour. Half of the previous contests resulted in wins for the colonials, three in defeats, while the remaining two were drawn. Several thousand spectators visited the spacious Lyttelton Ground at Leyton. Mr Jones continues too ill to play, and Mr Boyle again stood out of the Australian team. Of the University eleven, four – the Rev Mr Thornton, Mr Buckland, Mr Leslie and Mr Collins – rank among the Past, and of the remaining seven now in resistance five have received their “blue.”

After having lost the toss thrice running, The Australians won it on this occasion. Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman opened the batting; Messrs Cochrane and Buckland were the bowlers. A cut for four in the opening over by Mr Bannerman was soon followed by the dismissal of the Australian captain through a smart catch at the wicket. Mr Trott started for a doubtful run and before he could regain his ground the wicket was put down. Two for 13.

Mr Bonnor joined Mr Bannerman who, after narrowly escaping a run out, batted in a livelier style than usual. He had the misfortune to play the ball hard on to his wicket at 48. Mr Jarvis led off with a late cut for four. The first hour's play yielded a run a minute. Mr Nepean had relieved Mr Buckland, and at 68 Mr Cochrane gave way to Mr Croome. Mr [Bonnor] drove the last-named to the off for four, and at the interval the score stood at 89.

Seven overs afterwards the 100 was reached, Mr Bonnor being credited with more than half of them. This batsman's off stump was struck out of the ground at 118; his hits included four fours, two threes and eleven twos. Mr Blackham, among other items, cut Mr Collins for four, but was then bowled, leg stump, and half the wickets were down for 132. The last five wickets added 44 – Mr Turner fell to slip, Mr Edwards was bowled, Mr Worrall skied the ball to point, Mr Ferris was finely caught low down at long slip and Mr Jarvis bowled. Total, 176.

The Rev R T Thornton and Lord George Scott began the Oxford innings to the attacks of Messrs Turner and Ferris. A very poor start was made, as both batsmen were bowled for eight runs. Messrs Rashleigh and Buckland soon improved matters, the latter cutting each bowler finely for four. At 47 Mr Ferris handed the ball to Mr Trott. The 50 was completed after 55 minutes' play. Mr Buckland was then missed by Mr Edwards at mid-off, but in the next over he was stumped; his hits were a five, six fours, two threes, a two and only six singles. Three for 64. With seven runs added Mr Watson was bowled, off stump. Mr Philipson and Mr Rashleigh played the ball on to their wicket, and Mr Nepean was bowled.

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

A high wind prevailed at Leyton yesterday, when this match was continued on the Lyttelton Ground. About 4,000 spectators were present throughout the day. Mr Blackham had received a wound on the hand, and his place at the wicket was taken by Mr Jarvis.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 14 June, page 11)

Those who visited the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday were rewarded with a most interesting day's cricket. From the time the first ball was bowled to within half-an-hour of the finish the result hung in the balance. In the result it will be seen that the Australians won the match by 74 runs.

This makes the sixth victory of the Colonials out of 11 matches. They had defeated Mr Thornton's team, Warwickshire, Surrey, Oxford University, Yorkshire and Oxford University Past and Present.

11 June: SURREY v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3334.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 12 June, page 10)

In this match yesterday at the Oval Kent had a very weak team, and an hour and a half sufficed for the Surrey bowlers, Lohmann and Beaumont, to dismissed the whole of the eleven in their first innings.

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

The decided advantage which Surrey gained over their rivals at the Oval on Monday was fully maintained yesterday. At the drawing of stumps on the previous evening each side had completed an innings, and Kent who were 78 runs behind, had lost six of their batsmen in the second venture for 68. The four outstanding wickets were captured for an addition of 39. Surrey now required 30 to win, and won by eight wickets.

11 June: SUSSEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3335.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 12 June, page 10)

Both these counties were well represented at the Hove, Brighton, yesterday.

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

Although they showed much improvement in their batting yesterday at Brighton, the Sussex team were unable to avert a severe defeat at the hands of the powerful Midland eleven, who won by ten wickets. On Monday evening each side had completed an innings, and Notts had an advantage of 73 runs.

11 June: YORKSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128251.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Tuesday 12 June, page 10)

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

Derbyshire played an uphill game with great determination yesterday at Bradford, but in spite of their efforts the home side eventually won by seven wickets. Yorkshire, who had lost nine wickets overnight for 170, completed their innings for 180. The feature of the second venture of Derbyshire was excellent batting by Ratcliffe and Mr Walker.

14 June: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3336.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 June, page 10)

On the ground of the East Gloucestershire Club at Cheltenham yesterday the first of the fixtures between the home county and Notts began. The weather during the early part of the day proved fine, but later rain stopped the game for half an hour.

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

Play in this match was resumed yesterday on the ground of the East Gloucestershire Club at Cheltenham. When stumps were drawn on Thursday the visitors, having gone in first, had lost nine wickets for 209. Yesterday Richardson and Shacklock went on with the Notts batting. With six runs added the former was caught at slip and the innings closed for 215. The last wicket put on altogether 78 runs.

Dr W G Grace and Dr E M Grace opened the home venture at 3.25. The wicket had become rather treacherous and Barnes got a lot of break on the ball. Only seven runs had been recorded when Dr E M Grace skied the ball and was caught by the wicket-keeper. Painter joined his captain, and by careful play the score was slowly increased. Before the second wicket fell the total stood at 52. Three other batsmen were dismissed for an addition of 16, and at the close of the day Gloucestershire, with half the innings over, required 68 to avert the follow-on.

Day 3 (report from Monday 18 June, page 9)

After the excellent batting form the Gloucestershire eleven have recently shown, it was rather surprising to find them beaten in a single innings against a total of 215. Of course the wicket at the East Gloucestershire Ground, Cheltenham, was affected by the rain, and on Saturday the Notts bowlers took full advantage of its treacherous state.

At the close of Friday Gloucestershire had gone in against a score of 215, and had lost half their wickets for 68. On Saturday Mr Francis was the only batsman to offer any determined resistance, and in an hour the first Gloucestershire innings terminated for 112.

Against the bowling of Flowers, Attewell and Barnes, the home side, which had followed on in a minority of 103, were not so successful even as in the previous venture. The brothers Grace contributed only a couple of runs between them, and when the fifth wicket fell the score had reached 22. Afterwards Mr Townsend hit freely, but the others could make little headway against the attack, and finally Nottinghamshire were victorious by an innings and 28 runs.

14 June: MIDDLESEX v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3337.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 June, page 10)

Yesterday the excellence of the Colonials' bowling on a wet wicket was well illustrated at Lord's. The rain of the early morning was followed by a storm about 11 o'clock, and a little before the luncheon hour there was a further downpour. Yet a start was made at 25 minutes past 12. The county were without the services of their captain, Mr A J Webbe, who had injured his hand in making a hard catch in the Gloucestershire match.

Middlesex won the toss and, with rather questionable policy, went in. Lord George Scott (who played the first time for his county) and Mr Vernon were the early batsmen. Messrs Turner and Ferris bowled throughout. Thirteen overs produced 17 runs, when Mr Vernon was caught low down at point, and a single later Lord G Scott was bowled. Two down. Some resistance was offered to the attack by Mr S W Scott and Mr Walker. Each drove Mr Ferris for four. At 34, however, the first-named batsman was caught at slip.

The next seven wickets went for an addition of 34 – Mr Walker was bowled, Mr Nepean caught at mid-off, Mr Hadow run out, Mr Paravicini taken at the wicket, Burton bowled first ball, Hearne was run out and Mr Robertson played on. Total 68; time 3.50.

Middlesex entered the field, and Messrs M'Donnell and Bonnor took up their stations at the wicket. Before a ball could be bowled, however, rain burst over the ground in torrents and a hasty retreat to the pavilion was made. The weather cleared, but at half-past 5 the weather was too saturated to be played on, and stumps were drawn for the day.

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

Owing to the continuous rain at headquarters, there was no play in this match at Lord's yesterday. On Thursday Middlesex completed an innings for 68. Play will be resumed this morning at half-past 11.

Day 3 (report from Monday 18 June, page 9)

Over 3,000 spectators visited Lord's on Saturday, when this match was continued from Thursday. The colonials started their batting at 11.35, when Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman faced the attacks of Burton and Mr Robertson.

Six runs were made when Mr Bannerman was secured at slip. Mr Trott appeared, and Mr M'Donnell gave a hard chance to Mr Nepean at cover-point. The Australian captain quickly profited by this indulgence and secured a dozen runs in an over of Mr Robertson's. Mr Trott also had an escape at the hands of Mr Nepean. These mistakes proved very costly to the county and the score was rapidly advanced to 47, when Mr M'Donnell, who had made 39, was well caught at long field on. Mr Trott closed his useful venture of obtaining his wicket. Nine colonial batsmen only contributed 23 between them, and the innings closed after an hour and a half's batting for 97.

With a deficiency of 29 the county went in a second time; but so admirably did the ground suit Messrs Turner and Ferris that Lord George Scott and Messrs Hadow and S W Scott were all out for a dozen runs. Messrs Walker and Nepean kept their wickets up until luncheon, when 23 runs were registered, the county being still six runs to the bad.

A little rain fell during the interval. At 28 Mr Walker was secured by cover-point and a catch at short-leg dismissed Mr Nepean. A smart shower now caused a delay of 10 minutes, after which Mr Paravicini hit the first ball to long-on, where Mr Bannerman secured it. Six for 32, or only three runs [on]. Messrs Robertson and Vernon inspired their side with a little hope for a few overs; but when 16 had been added, the latter was caught at midwicket. The last three batsmen were dismissed for 14, Mr Robertson carrying out his bat. Total 62.

The Australians now wanted only 34 to win. At the outset it seemed possible that one of those surprises for which cricket is celebrated would be furnished. Before a run had been scored Mr M'Donnell was caught at long-on, and at five Mr Trott was bowled. Messrs Bonnor and Bannerman were next together, however, and the former hit vigorously and well. Mr Bannerman, with an on-drive for four, won the match for the Australians by eight wickets. The bowling of Mr Turner and Burton was exceptionally good.

14 June: SURREY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3338.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 June, page 10)

Yesterday the Cambridge team made their first appearance on a metropolitan ground, when they began their annual encounter with Surrey at the Oval. Messrs G Kemp and Hale were the notable absentees from the side, and the new men included Mr E M Butler, the Harrow captain three years ago, Mr A L Watson, a senior from Winchester, and Mr E de Little. Maurice Read, who received an injury in the Kent match, had to give place in the Surrey team to Mr C A Trouncer, of Cambridge University.

There were several interruptions by rain, and the wicket all day played easy. Surrey won the toss and went in first. The Cambridge fielding on the whole was excellent, the wicket-keeping of Mr M'Gregor being especially good. Their bowling, however, did not come up to expectation.

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

Only slight headway was made with this match at Kennington Oval yesterday. Rain during the early morning prevented a start being made until 20 to 1, and at 12.55 rain stopped the game and further play proved impracticable. Stumps were drawn at 4 o'clock . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 18 June, page 9)

An interesting day's cricket was witnessed at Kennington Oval on Saturday, when this contest, which had been so much interfered with by rain, was brought to a definite issue. During the time that cricket was practicable on Thursday and Friday Surrey put together 282 for the loss of five wickets.

The game was resumed on Saturday at five minutes past 11, and in 40 minutes the remaining wickets fell to the bowling of Messrs Woods and Ford for an addition of 30 runs. Abel, who went in first, left seventh, caught at slip for a splendid innings of 160 – the largest he has ever made for his county. He was batting a little more than four hours, and among his hits were one five, eighteen fours, nine threes and seventeen twos. Mr Bowden's 19 included a very fine square leg hit out of the ground for six.

With the exception of Messrs Butler, Woods and Meyrick-Jones the Cambridge batsmen played disappointingly. Certainly the treacherous state of the wicket must be considered. Mr Butler, who was captain at Harrow three years ago, showed much the best form in both innings. His 43 was made without a mistake, and included one five (a leg hit), four fours, three threes and two twos.

Following on against a majority of 152, the light blues lost eight wickets for 97. Messrs Butler, Buxton and Thomas played very well. An unexpected stand for the ninth wicket was made by Messrs Woods and M'Gregor, who added 52. When there seemed every probability of Cambridge saving the game Bowley was put on and took the last two wickets. Surrey thus won by an innings and three runs.

15 June: LEICESTERSHIRE v YORKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128267.html)

Day 1 (no report from Saturday 16 June, page 16)

Day 2 (report from Monday 18 June, page 9)

On account of rain there was no play in this match at Leicester on Friday, but on Saturday the weather was fine. Yorkshire batted freely. From the score appended it will be seen that the match was drawn.

18 June: ENGLAND XI v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3339.html)

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

On the Warwickshire County Ground at Edgbaston yesterday the match between the Australians and eleven amateurs and professionals of England was begun. Fine weather was experienced, and a large company, numbering fully 7,000, assembled to witness the second game of the colonials in Birmingham this season. Recent rains had rendered the wicket a little slow.

Successful in the toss, the Englishmen took first innings, Dr Grace and Ulyett opening the venture to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Ferris. The batsmen showed cautiousness at starting. With the score at 30 Mr Turner handed the ball to Mr Trott, but the separation was effected from the other end, as when two runs had been added Ulyett was caught at slip. Painter soon followed in. He soon gave a chance to Mr Bannerman at cover point, which the latter failed to accept. Dr Grace thinking there was a run called his partner, but Mr Bannerman threw the wicket down and the batsman had to retire for 18. Two for 38. Mr Turner now resumed bowling, and with four runs added disposed of Painter. Three down.

Mr Radcliffe arrived to the aid of Peel and a determined stand was made. Fifty was announced at a quarter past 1, and 16 runs later another change in the attack was tried, Mr Worrall relieving Mr Ferris, while soon afterwards Mr Turner handed the ball to Mr Trott. When Peel at last retired to a return catch 47 runs had been added. Four for 89. Mr Bainbridge was quickly bowled, but Messrs Wright and Radcliffe increased the score rapidly. Within a few minutes of 3 o'clock the 100 was completed. Several variations were made in the attack, but still runs came at a fast rate, and the figures reached 158 before Mr Radcliffe was caught and bowled. He had played a brilliant innings of 71. Afterwards Messrs Thornton and [Hewitt] hit with some success, and the total reached 204.

The Australians had a little over an hour's batting, during which time there was a splendid display of free hitting by Mr P S M'Donnell, the captain.

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

The Colonial eleven were seen to great advantage of the Edgbaston Ground, Birmingham, yesterday in the second day's play of their match against a strong England team. Fine weather was experienced and the attendance again numbered about 7,000. When stumps were drawn on Monday the Englishmen had completed an innings for 204 and the visitors had scored 86 for the loss of one wicket.

Messrs M'Donnell and Trott, the not-outs with 55 and one, continued the batting at 20 minutes to 12, to the bowling of Dr Grace and Shilton. The 100 was reached at 10 minutes to 12, but the addition of seven saw Mr M'Donnell's brilliant innings closed; in his 67 were one six, eight fours, two threes and five twos. Two for 107.

Messrs Bonnor and Trott now became partners and runs were put on at a very rapid rate. Ulyett was given a trial with the ball at 128, but his bowling came in for severe punishment. In the course of a few overs Mr Bonnor among other hits made five drives for four each from him. He sent down eight overs for 27 runs, and at 163 Peel was tried, while Mr Radcliffe, who had relieved Shilton,

soon gave way to Dr Grace. In spite of these variations the second hundred appeared at five minutes past 1. Nine runs later Mr Trott was caught deep in front of square leg for a careful innings.

During the next few overs the aspect of the game somewhat changed. At 213 Mr Bonnor's fine innings was closed by a catch at long-off; he was missed in the out field when he had scored 40, but made no other mistake. His hits included 11 fours, three threes and three twos. Before a run had been added Mr Jarvis obstructed his wicket. At 221 Mr Blackham was caught at point and a couple of runs later Mr Turner lost his wicket in the same way.

Messrs Edwards and Worrall stayed together until 244; the former was then "leg before" and at 250 Mr Ferris was bowled. Nine wickets were now down. Mr Boyle, after being missed at deep square leg by Ulyett from the first ball sent him kept up his wicket while Mr Worrall hit, and the total was advanced to 297 before the last-named was run out. Time 3h 50m.

The Englishmen, who were 93 behind, went in again to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Ferris. With only nine runs recorded Dr Grace was caught at short mid-on and Ulyett had his middle stump bowled down. Subsequently wickets again fell quickly. Painter and Peel were both bowled at 30; at 31 Mr Hewett was caught at wicket, and at 43 Mr Radcliffe fell to a catch at slip. Mr Wright was bowled at 56, and then Messrs Docker and Bainbridge played out time, the England team being 19 runs behind with only three wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 June, page 7)

The thirteenth match of the tour the Australians won yesterday in a very decisive manner by defeating an England team at the Edgbaston Grounds, Birmingham. Stumps were drawn on the previous evening with the game almost over, as the Englishmen, with only three wickets to fall in their second innings, were yet 19 runs in arrear.

Rain fell during the morning, and it had not ceased when at 11.40 the match was resumed. Messrs Bainbridge and Docker, the not-outs, were opposed by Messrs Turner and Ferris. With three runs added Mr Bainbridge was bowled and the Rev Mr Thornton arrived. The new-comer at once hit vigorously and soon averted the innings defeat. Six more runs were put on, and then Mr Ferris finished off the innings by bowling Mr Docker and Shilton. Total 99.

Only seven runs were necessary to give the Australians the victory. This number Messrs Worrall and Boyle speedily obtained, and the visitors won by ten wickets.

18 June: MIDDLESEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3340.html)

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

Mr A J Webbe, who has been suffering from a severe injury to his hand, was sufficiently well to be able to captain his county team at Lord's yesterday, when the Surrey eleven paid their annual visit. They were represented by their strongest side, but one notable absentee from the Middlesex team was Mr E H Buckland. In spite of the unpleasant weather, spectators mustered in strong force.

Winning the toss, Surrey wet in first on a wicket rendered somewhat slow by the recent heavy rain. Mr Shuter and Abel made an excellent start. Though many bowling changes were resorted to by the home county, they kept together until the figures had reached 105. These runs had taken an hour and 35 minutes to put together. Mr Shuter was the first to leave – caught at wicket for 47; he had hit six fours. Mr Key's stay was brief, as at 114 Mr Robertson bowled him.

Mr W W Read and Abel were partners while 63 were added. The former did not play quite so well as usual. Abel continued to show good form, but when there seemed every prospect of his reaching the coveted hundred he fell to a splendid catch at slip. He was in three hours, and his chief items were one five, ten fours, two threes and nine twos. Afterwards Lohmann hit with great freedom for 77; he was dismissed eighth at 310 – leg before. He hit nine fours, six threes and four twos. Lohmann should have been stumped when he had made four, while Abel was twice let off. The Surrey innings was closed for 316 at 5.45 by a brilliant return catch by Mr Hadow.

Middlesex had an hour's play in an extremely bad light and, as will be gleaned from the subjoined score, they lost three good batsmen.

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

At Lord's, yesterday, the Surrey bowlers took full advantage of the rather treacherous wicket. There was no improvement in the weather, but the company was as numerous as on the previous day. The close of Monday had left the game greatly in favour of Surrey, who, having completed an innings for 316, had disposed of three of their rivals for 51.

Shortly after 10 o'clock, Messrs Walker and Hadow took up their positions at the wicket. Lohmann, who opened the bowling, dismissed the former with his first ball, and in his second over got Mr Vernon caught at point. Further misfortune befell the home side. Mr Hadow, at 63, played the ball into the hands of mid-on, and West, at 79, was secured by third man. The last three wickets added 35, and the innings ended after 55 minutes' play.

With the heavy task of obtaining 202 to avert defeat, Middlesex followed on. Lohmann and Bowley had charge of the bowling. The opening was disheartening. With six runs recorded Mr Webbe lost his wicket by a brilliant left-handed return catch, at 11 Mr Scott was caught at wicket, and four runs later Mr Walker fell to a clever catch at slip. Before luncheon four more batsmen were dismissed for an addition of 44, making seven down for 59.

Subsequently there was a capital stand by Messrs Robertson and Nepean, who added 65 for the eighth wicket. After the latter's dismissal Mr Robertson and Burton increased the total to 159,

when both were out. Mr Robertson, who was missed by Mr W W Read and Mr Key when he had made 40 and 57, hit with vigour. Messrs Hadow and Nepean both showed excellent defence. The score subjoined will show that Surrey won by an innings and 43 runs.

18 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3341.html)

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

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

There was a full and interesting day's cricket at the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, yesterday, when the match between the home county and Lancashire was continued. The subjoined score will show that the home side, with three wickets in hand, are 82 runs to the good.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 June, page 7)

The rain of yesterday at the Trent Bridge Ground brought this match to an abrupt termination. On Tuesday evening Lancashire was left with the advantage, as Nottinghamshire were only 82 runs ahead and had lost seven wickets.

18 June: SUSSEX v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3342.html)

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

A numerous company witnessed the beginning of this match at the Hove Cricket Ground, Brighton, yesterday. The following score will show the state of the game when stumps were drawn for the day.

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

This match was continued yesterday, at Hove, Brighton, when the Cambridge men showed much better form both in batting and fielding than on Monday. As will be seen from the score, the University won by four wickets.

21 June: LANCASHIRE v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3343.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Friday 22 June, page 10)

Day 2 (scorecard but no report from Saturday 23 June, page 14)

Day 3 (report from Monday 25 June, page 9)

The uncertainty of our national pastime could scarcely have had a better illustration than that furnished by the match between the Dark Blues and Lancashire, played during the last three days of the week at Old Trafford, Manchester. On Friday evening everything at one time pointed to the severe defeat of Lancashire who, having followed on, lost eight wickets for 93.

The last three batsmen, however, gave unexpected trouble, and before the tenth wicket fell on Sat morning they had increased the score by 79 runs. Watson, who was missed early at mid-off by Mr Rashleigh, took out his bat for 22.

Oxford were left with 63 to obtain for victory, and they began their task at half-past 12. The order of going in was altered. Wickets fell rapidly to the bowling of Watson and Briggs. Four were lost for 16 and, in spite of good batting by Mr Rashleigh, the innings closed for an addition of 26. Lancashire thus won amid great excitement by 20 runs.

21 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3344.html)

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

The colonial cricketers entered upon their most important match against Marylebone with most favourable credentials. Out of 13 engagements they had won eight. Yesterday at Lord's the weather was so gloomy that rain threatened to stop play soon after the match began, yet many thousand spectators were on the ground.

It is ten years since the first Australian team played their memorable game with Marylebone, when Mr Gregory's Eleven won by nine wickets in a single day. Of the cricketers who took part in that contest three figured on the English side to-day – viz., Dr W G Grace, Mr Vernon and Flowers – and two on the Australian, Messrs Bannerman and Boyle. The wicket was all in favour of the bowlers and each innings was closed with a remarkable performance. Mr Steel took three wickets in two overs and a ball for two runs; and Mr Ferris obtained five wickets in six overs for five runs.

It may be noted that the whole of the professional element of the Marylebone Eleven came from Nottinghamshire. Mr Lyons again stands out of the Australian side, and it is satisfactory to learn that Mr Jones is reported to be much better.

Within a few minutes of noon the Englishmen, who had lost the toss, took the field, and quickly afterwards Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman opened the visitors' innings. Barnes led off the attack from the nursery end. Attewell bowled at the pavilion wicket. The first wicket that fell was Mr Bannerman's – he had already been twice badly missed – who was easily caught at slip when the score was 27. Mr Trott arrived to the aid of his captain.

At 37 the first bowling change was adopted, Flowers relieving Attewell. The first ball from the former Mr M'Donnell cut to the boundary, but having obtained a three in the slips, he skied the ball to Attewell at extra mid-off. Rain stopped play for a time, and after the interval the game was resumed, Barnes and Attewell having charge of the attack. At 60 Mr Bonnor fell to a fine right-hand catch at third man. Three for 60. Mr Blackham came in. Barnes gave way to Dr Grace at 74. Attewell, since the interruption, had sent down nine maiden overs for a wicket.

After luncheon Barnes and Attewell again had charge of the bowling. With the total at 87 two wickets were captured. Mr Blackham attempted to play forward to a ball from Attewell and was clean bowled, while a brilliant catch by Mr Paravicini in the long field sent back Mr Trott. Five for 87. Mr Jarvis appeared, but was soon easily caught by third man. Six for 90.

At 109, the ball ran up Mr Turner's bat into the hands of point. Seven down. Mr Edwards joined Mr Worrall. Runs were obtained at a very slow rate, half an hour being expended over 20. Attewell, whose last five overs had only cost a single, gave way to Mr Steel, and the first ball caused Mr Edwards to be caught at wicket. Mr Ferris was soon bowled, and without the addition of a run Mr Boyle, the last man, was stumped. Total 130.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Shuter were Marylebone's first representatives. Mr Turner and Mr Ferris were the bowlers. Dr Grace, after giving a difficult chance to point, played the ball hard on to his wicket in the seventh over, when the score was six. Barnes made four by a leg hit, after which the score was, by easy stages, advanced to 32, when Mr Boyle relieved Mr Ferris. The second ball of

the change caused Mr Shuter's dismissal – caught at long-on. Gunn came, but soon lost the company of Barnes, who started for a run and did not recover his ground in time. Three for 34.

Mr Steel batted steadily for a little while and then drove Mr Boyle for two and four in one over. Mr Ferris resumed bowling at 47. Both batsmen played cautiously. An hour and a quarter yielded 60. Nine runs later a double change was adopted, the bowling being intrusted to Messrs Worrall and Trott. These tactics had the effect of dismissing both batsmen – Mr Steel caught behind the bowler and Gunn at cover-point. Half the wickets were now down for 84. Messrs Vernon and Key were not long associated, both being caught at cover-point. Seven for 99. Mr Paravicini and Flowers were next together. The latter, with a drive for a couple, completed the 100 at 25 minutes to 7.

Further misfortune quickly befell Marylebone. Mr Paravicini and Attewell were bowled in an over from Mr Ferris, off whom Sherwin, the last man, was caught at long-off at 10 minutes to 7, and the innings closed for 102. Stumps were now drawn for the day . . .

Play will be resumed to-day at 11.30, when the Australians, who are 28 runs on, will start their second innings.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 June, page 14)

About 10,000 spectators were present at Lord's yesterday to witness the continuation of this match. Heavy rain had fallen during the night, and the start was delayed until a quarter to 3 o'clock. Under the hot sun the wicket had by this time become treacherous, and remained so for the rest of the day. Mr Trott played an excellent innings, while Mr Bonnor, during the short time he was in, hit with his usual daring.

The match was in a most interesting state when Marylebone went in a second time with a little under two hours for the day's play and 125 to get for victory. Every ball was watched with almost painful anxiety. The tension of the spectators extended to the cricketers, with the result that their superb fielding was marred by several misses. Had these catches been held there is every probability that an Australian victory would have been achieved.

As it was, when stumps were drawn there were loud outcries among the spectators for the game to be played out, and the Australians for a minute lingered at the wickets. The umpires, however, drew the stumps. It has very rarely, if ever, happened in a match of such widespread interest for the game to be so near its conclusion and to be left in such a critical state.

Day 3 (report from Monday 25 June, page 9)

Although it was known that very little time would be required to bring this match to a close on Saturday, there were far more spectators at Lord's than might have been expected. It will be remembered that at the close of Friday's play Marylebone required 24 runs for victory with three wickets to fall.

At half-past 11 Mr Paravicini and Flowers continued the batting. Mr Ferris started the bowling from the nursery. The first over was a maiden. Mr Turner went on at the other end, and his first ball Flowers stopped with his leg and paid the penalty; the batsman was evidently dissatisfied with

the decision, but a more unmistakable instance of leg before wicket could not have occurred. Attewell came, and scored a single in the fourth over. Nothing resulted from the next two overs; and the second ball of the seventh Attewell played under and was sharply caught at slip. Nine for 102.

Thus when Sherwin, the last man, joined Mr Paravicini there were yet 23 runs for victory. The latter was not at home with the bowling, but there seemed a probability that the runs would be obtained. Sherwin made a single, and two maiden overs followed. The score was then assisted by three byes, and one by the amateur. In the 11th over Mr Paravicini promised well with a brilliant cut for three. The very next ball, played by Sherwin, he started for a run; his foot slipped, and before he could recover his ground he was out. An idea of the recklessness of the attempt may be gathered from the fact that Mr Ferris, the bowler, fielded the ball himself and threw the wicket down. Total 110.

Thus the Australians were victorious by 14 runs. The Colonials won their first match with Marylebone in 1878 by nine wickets; the second, in 1882, was drawn; and the third, in 1884, was lost by an innings and 115 runs; so that they have now won two matches to their opponents' one.

21 June: HAMPSHIRE v SUSSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128538.html)

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

These neighbouring counties commenced a match yesterday on the United Services Ground, Portsmouth. The weather was fine at starting, when Hampshire, having won the toss, sent in Messrs Bonham-Carter to the bowling of Mr Smith and A Hide.

The game had not long been in progress when rain fell heavily and compelled the players to seek shelter. After luncheon there were no signs of an improvement, and at 4 o'clock it was decided to draw stumps.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 June, page 14)

This match was continued at Portsmouth yesterday, the Hampshire innings ending for 60. Sussex went in and kept possession of the wickets for the rest of the day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 25 June, page 9)

When play ceased in this match at Portsmouth on Friday Sussex had secured a great advantage; as, having got rid of their rivals for 60, they had put together 260 for the loss of nine wickets. Mr Newham played in fine style for his 74, which included two fours, six threes and 14 twos.

On Saturday morning the last wicket fell for an addition of six. Hampshire went in a second time with the heavy task of obtaining 206 to avert the innings defeat. Against the bowling of the brothers Hide only Smith could make any headway, and shortly after luncheon Hampshire was beaten by an innings and 119 runs.

22 June: YORKSHIRE v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128252.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 23 June, page 14)

In consequence of the heavy rain this match, which should have opened at Halifax yesterday, was postponed until to-day.

Day 2 (report from Monday 25 June, page 9)

In consequence of rain on Friday, play in this match at Halifax did not begin until Saturday. Warwickshire won the toss and put their opponents in. The wicket was all in favour of the bowlers, and the match was drawn . . .

22 June: GENTLEMEN OF SURREY v PARSEES (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/184/184943.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 23 June, page 14)

Play in this match began at Kennington-oval yesterday, the Gentlemen of Surrey scoring 126 in their first innings and 16 for no wicket in the second. The Parsee scored 113 in their first innings.

Day 2 (report from Monday 25 June, page 9)

Very heavy scoring characterized the concluding day's cricket in this match at Kennington Oval on Saturday. Messrs Morgan and W W Read each scored over the hundred, and while they were in the ball was several times hit out of the ground. Mr Read's figures included three sixes, three fours, 13 threes and eight twos. Mr Morgan made a six, four fours, 12 threes and 13 twos.

In their second innings the Parsees were rapidly dismissed and, as will be seen from the score subjoined, they were beaten by 300 runs.

25 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3345.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Tuesday 26 June, page 10)

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 June, page 12)

In spite of the heavy rain during the early morning considerable headway was made with the match between Marylebone and Cambridge at Lord's yesterday.

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

In the time that weather permitted play at Lord's yesterday the Marylebone team further increased their score at the cost of two batsmen. Rain after a time put a stop to the game.

25 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3346.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Tuesday 26 June, page 10)

Day 2 (scorecard but no report from Wednesday 27 June, page 12)

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

Yesterday at the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, Kent followed up the advantage they gained on the second day by securing a rather easy victory over Nottingham. Kent, who won by six wickets, had not beaten Nottinghamshire since 1877.

25 June: SURREY v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3347.html)

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

A remarkable day's batting was witnessed yesterday at Kennington Oval, when Oxford met Surrey. The county won the toss and went in on a good wicket, which they retained possession of the whole of the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 June, page 12)

The innings of Mr W W Read on Monday and yesterday at Kennington Oval stands out as a marvellous batting achievement even in these days of heavy scores. At one time, indeed, it seemed probable that he would eclipse the best individual total in a match of importance, previously made by Dr W G Grace in 1876, who, playing for Marylebone against Kent, obtained 344.

Mr Read was altogether batting six hours and a half for his 338, which was made up of a five, 46 fours, 14 threes, 29 twos and singles. The last wicket fell for 650. This is the highest score ever made by Surrey in a first-class match, but they once tied it against Hampshire. Oxford went in . . .

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

It will be remembered that the first two days of this match were produced of extraordinary scoring. At the close of Tuesday Oxford had begun their venture and no wicket had fallen.

At the Oval yesterday, play was not practicable before half-past 12, owing to the heavy rain. Messrs Simpson and Gresson, the not-outs, continued the University defence to the bowling of Lohmann and Abel. Both batsmen played with great care, and the largest hit for some time was a leg hit by Mr Gresson for three. The total reached 39, and then Abel handed the ball to Beaumont, while at 47 Bowley superseded Lohmann. Shortly afterwards the rain began to fall heavily and drove the players to shelter. The weather did not improve, and late in the afternoon it was agreed to abandon the match.

25 June: YORKSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3348.html)

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

Yesterday the Australians entered on their return match with Yorkshire, which forms the 15th engagement of the tour. On the first occasion it will be remembered that the county were beaten by an innings and 64 runs. Mr Boyle stands out of the visitors' team.

There were about 10,000 people on the Park Avenue Ground, Bradford, to witness the match. The visitors won the toss and were in nearly the whole day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 June, page 12)

About 12,000 people were present at the Park Avenue, Ground, Bradford, yesterday, when the match between the colonials and Yorkshire was continued. The home side, who had scored eight overnight without loss of wicket, went on with their innings shortly after noon. The innings occupied nearly the whole day.

Two of the team especially distinguished themselves – Hall and Lee. Three wickets were down for 67, when they became partners. During the time they were together no fewer than 111 were added. Towards the close the Yorkshire wickets fell rapidly and the innings terminated for 228.

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

Heavy scoring characterized the concluding day's play in the match between the Australians and Yorkshire at the Park Avenue Ground, Bradford. Play ceased on Tuesday evening with Yorkshire one wicket down in their second innings for 48. The game was resumed yesterday, when Wainwright and Hall continued the home batting.

Runs were scored rapidly and, in spite of many bowling changes, the 100 was completed at 1 o'clock. Fifty-eight more were recorded before the batsmen were separated. Wainwright, who had played a brilliant innings of 105, was then stumped. Lee was caught at extra mid-off at 185, and four runs later Hall's patient innings was closed by a catch at wicket. Mr Hirst and Peel hit freely and the 200 went up at 3.20.

After Peel had been taken at slip Mr Hirst continued to bat brilliantly. Mr Day was bowled at 248, and at 280 Preston was badly run out by his partner. Wade then joined Mr Hirst and the pair kept together for the rest of the day, the match being ultimately drawn.

28 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3349.html)

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

Marylebone was much more strongly represented at Lord's yesterday against Oxford than they were in the early part of the week in the match with Cambridge. Mr A K Watson was left out of the Oxford team and his place taken by Mr Nepean, while, as there were 12 aside, Mr Rashleigh was able to give a trial to Mr G Fowler, a fast bowler.

Rain on Wednesday had so saturated the turf that at one time there were doubts as to the advisability of starting at the usual hour. However, at 12 o'clock the Club began their batting and the innings closed for 140. Oxford began badly . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 30 June, page 15)

On the treacherous wicket at Lord's yesterday the bowlers always had the advantage over the bat. Marylebone won by 62 runs.

28 June: NORTH v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3350.html)

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

The Colonial Eleven made their second appearance on the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, with unpleasant recollections, for it was here that they experienced their first defeat of the tour rather more than a month ago. With Yorkshire engaged and Mr A G Steel unable to play, the North team was not so strong as it would have been otherwise. The eleven consisted of six players from Lancashire and five from Nottinghamshire and, under the circumstances, it was the strongest that could have been selected.

Owing to the heavy rains the ground was unfit for play until half-past 2 yesterday, when there were several thousands of people present. Mr Hornby won the toss and opened the innings with Barlow. As usual Messrs Ferris and Turner were intrusted with the Australian bowling and, as the wicket was very heavy, there was little prospect of long scores.

The English captain began well. He made a four from each bowler, but at ten the ball struck his wicket. This was the first of a series of misfortunes for the home side. Only a single had been added when Gunn fell to a catch at mid-on. Five runs later Mr Dixon was clean bowled, and at 24 both Barnes and Mr Eccles were out, the former caught at wicket and the latter at slip. Five down. This was the result of less than an hour's play.

Sugg and Barlow increased the score steadily, and at 20 minutes to 4 the 50 appeared on the telegraph board. Messrs Worrall and Boyle went on to bowl at 61, and with four runs added the latter got Sugg well caught at long-off. Forty-one runs were put on during the partnership. Briggs hit freely for a few overs, but when Messrs Turner and Ferris resumed bowling the innings quickly closed. At 81 Barlow and Attewell were both bowled, and at 92 Briggs went out in the same way. A single later a return catch from Pilling brought the innings to a close at five minutes to 5.

The Australians went in after the customary interval. Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman started the batting to the attacks of Briggs and Attewell. Having scored five runs the Australian captain was taken at long-off, and made room for Mr Trott. The new batsman at once hit freely and brought on Barnes for Attewell at 27. From the last ball of the over Mr Trott was caught at extra slip. Mr Bonnor was secured at slip at 33; at 49 Mr Jarvis retired – bowled – while Mr Blackham left at 51. Messrs Bannerman and Turner afterwards played out time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 30 June, page 15)

Heavy rain fell at Manchester yesterday, and it was decided to postpone the game until this morning at half-past 11 o'clock.

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

After the poor scoring of Thursday at Old Trafford, Manchester, no one could have been prepared for the brilliant finish with which the Australians terminated this match on Saturday. Rain prevented any play whatever on Friday, and the scores when the game was resumed were in an even

state; the Australians, having dismissed their rivals for 93, had scored 55 for five wickets.

Messrs Bannerman and Turner, the not outs, were opposed shortly after 12 o'clock by Briggs and Barnes. The score travelled to 77, when Attewell superseded the latter and quickly got Mr Bannerman caught at wicket. He also caught and bowled Mr Turner at 79, and from one of his deliveries Mr Worrall was well secured in the long-field. The two remaining wickets quickly fell, and at 10 minutes past 1 the innings closed for 89.

With an advantage of four runs the North went in a second time to the bowling of Messrs Ferris and Turner. The start was most disastrous. Mr Hornby, Mr Dixon, Mr Eccles, Gunn and Barnes were all out for 14 runs. Sugg then joined Barlow and a stand was made. The score was quickly taken to 50, when Sugg was clean bowled. A dozen runs later Mr Turner sent back Briggs. Attewell was quickly caught at wicket, while Barlow, who had been in two hours, was next dismissed. Nine batsmen were out for 63, when Flowers and Pilling got together. The partnership produced 33, the innings closing at 4.25 for 96. The bowling of Mr Turner had been remarkably effective.

With an hour and 40 minutes in which to get 101 runs to win, the Australians commenced batting with Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman. The colonial captain at once began to hit with great vigour, and the score rose at a rapid rate. In 55 minutes Mr M'Donnell made 82 out of a total of 86, but his cricket was not altogether faultless. When he had scored 44 he was let off by Mr Eccles in the long-field, at 55 he gave Gunn an opportunity in the same place, while at 78 he played a ball on to the wicket but it did not remove the bails. His chief hits were 12 fours, two threes and 11 twos.

Four more wickets were captured for an addition of 11, but then Messrs Turner and Bannerman obtained the required number, and the Australians won by five wickets. Mr Bannerman during the whole time he was in only scored four runs. About 5,000 people were present to witness the finish.

28 June: YORKSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3351.html)

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

After their victory over Nottinghamshire the Kent eleven journeyed to Huddersfield and yesterday began a match against the home county. Heavy rain fell during the morning and delayed the start until 1 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 30 June, page 15)

When play ceased in this match at Huddersfield on Thursday Yorkshire had finished an innings for 195 and Kent had lost three wickets for 15 runs. Heavy rain prevented the game from being resumed yesterday until 1 o'clock, when on the slow wicket Walter Wright and Mr Marchant continued the visitors' batting to the attacks of Peel and Middlebrook.

Only 11 runs were added when a "yorker" sent back Wright. Mr Marchant played on at 26, and seven runs later Mr Streatfeild-Moore was taken at wicket. Six down. Frank Hearne and the Rev Mr Thornton made a stand and advanced the score to 56, when the former played on. By this time the interval had arrived. Afterwards rain fell so heavily that no further play was possible.

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

Kent played a spirited up-hill game in this match at Huddersfield on Saturday. When stumps were drawn the previous day they had gone in against a total of 195 and had lost seven wickets for 56.

The last three wickets gave more trouble than had been anticipated. The visitors had the misfortune to lose the services of Wootton, who was severely hit in the side from Preston's bowling, and they failed by nine runs to avert the follow on.

Against the majority of 88 the Kent team began their second innings at 25 minutes to 1. Mr Marchant was bowled at 5, and 28 runs later F Hearne fell to a catch at point. Mr Fox now joined G G Hearne, and these batsmen offered a most determined resistance to the Yorkshire attack. Hearne was missed at the wicket when he had made a couple. This mistake proved terribly expensive to the home side, as the score reached 120 before Hearne was caught at mid-on. His chief hits were seven fours, two threes and three twos. Mr Fox continued to bat with vigour until at 181 he was bowled. He had been in two hours and three-quarters, and his hits included 13 fours, two threes and 11 twos.

Eventually Yorkshire were left with 113 to get for victory. Only an hour remained for play so that there was little probability of the runs being obtained. As the score subjoined will show the game was drawn.

28 June: SURREY v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128248.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Friday 29 June, page 10)

2 July: LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3352.html)

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

At the Aigburth Ground, Liverpool, yesterday, the match between the Australians and a team of the district was to have commenced. The wet weather, however, prevented any play, and the start was postponed until this morning.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 July, page 5)

Considerable headway was made with this match at Liverpool yesterday.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 5 July, page 11)

A further victory has been added to the colonial list by this match, concluded at Liverpool yesterday. Rain prevented play on Monday, and when stumps were drawn on Tuesday evening the Australians, with an advantage of 49 on the first innings, had lost two wickets for 67. They won the match by 130 runs.

2 July: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3353.html)

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

Lord's had a most miserable appearance yesterday, when the Universities should have begun their annual match. From the early morning until past 5 o'clock rain fell incessantly, and at no time was there the least prospect of an improvement. The sides waited until after luncheon before they gave up all idea of cricket, and it was past 3 o'clock when stumps were drawn. If practicable, a start will be made this morning at 11 o'clock.

Mr C D Buxton had intended Mr Hale to play, but the latter's injured knee prevents his taking part in the game. Under these circumstances Mr Meyrick-Jones will fill the eleventh place. The sides are now as follows: - Oxford University. – M W Rashleigh, Brasenose (captain); Lord George Scott, Christ Church; Hon F J N Thesiger, Magdalen; Mr F H Gresson, Oriel; Mr H Philipson, New; Mr E T B Simpson, Pembroke; Mr H W Forster, New; Mr E A Nepean, University; Mr A C Croome, Magdalen; Mr G Fowler, Oriel; and Mr A H J Cochrane, Hertford.

Cambridge University. – Mr C D Buxton, Trinity (captain); Mr G Kemp, Trinity; Mr F Thomas, Trinity; Mr F G J Ford, King's; Mr E Crawley, Trinity; Mr H J Mordaunt, King's; Mr R C Gosling, Trinity; Mr E M Butler, Trinity; Mr S M J Woods, Jesus; Mr [G] M'Gregor, Jesus; and Mr F Meyrick-Jones, Trinity.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 July, page 5)

Beyond an occasion shower and one downpour, which caused a brief retreat to the pavilion, the weather was fine yesterday at Lord's. Doubtful as the outlook had been, it did not keep away the visitors. The covered terraces of reserved seats were well filled, while the general public mustered in great force in front of the tennis court. Every seat on the grand stand was taken, and the four-in-hands at Knatchbull's corner and the carriages along the nursery stretch formed a striking background. The attendance of members was also large, and included the President of the Marylebone Club, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Winterton . . . [etc.]

About half-past 11 it became known that Cambridge had won the toss. Precisely at noon the Oxford eleven entered the field and were quickly followed by Messrs Crawley and Mordaunt, the early batsmen. Mr Cochrane led off the bowling from the nursery end with his field thus – Mr Simpson, point; Mr Thesiger, cover-point; Mr Nepean, extra mid-off; Mr Rashleigh, mid-off; Lord George Scott, long-off; Mr Gresson, mid-on; Mr Croome, third man; Mr Forster, slip; and Mr Fowler, short leg. The first over proved a maiden.

Mr Croome bowled from the pavilion wicket, with his men disposed as follows: - Mr Simpson, point; Mr Thesiger, cover-point; Mr Nepean, extra mid-off; Mr Rashleigh, mid-off; Mr Cochrane, mid-on; Mr Forster, slip; Lord George Scott, third man; Mr Fowler, long-on; and Mr Gresson, long-off. Mr Philipson kept wicket.

Mr Mordaunt obtained two by a drive, and after four overs had been sent down for a single he drove the other bowler for three. Then play then became very quiet. The bowlers kept a good length and the fielding all round was excellent. After 20 minutes' play Mr Mordaunt, by a lucky stroke on the

leg side, obtained a couple, which increased the score to 10. The next 13 overs produced only a single, and then Mr Crawley was clean bowled. He had been in 35 minutes and had not scored. One for 12.

Mr Kemp came in. A couple to each batsman was followed by a fine hit on the leg side by Mr Kemp. The latter next drove Mr Croome for three, but in the following over he was completely beaten by a yorker. Two for 22. Mr Thomas arrived to the aid of Mr Mordaunt, who gave a chance to point when he had made 14. This mistake, however, mattered little, as at 24 he was splendidly caught and bowled by Mr Croome, who took the ball with his left hand. Three down.

When Mr Butler came in the score had reached 24 in an hour and five minutes. Mr Thomas made the first boundary hit of the match – a drive – and from the next ball he obtained three to leg. Mr Butler, before he had obtained a run, should have been caught at point. The batsmen then played with great care, and the next seven overs only produced five runs. Mr Thomas did most of the scoring. He drove Mr Croome to the boundary and he later secured three by a leg hit.

With the figures at 44 the first bowling change was adopted. Mr Fowler, fast right-hand, displaced Mr Croome. In the course of the next ten minutes the score was slowly increased to 50 at half-past 1. Mr Forster now relieved Mr Cochrane, and nine runs later Mr Nepean superseded Mr Fowler. Mr Butler made drives for two and three, so that at 66 the bowlers changed ends. However, at luncheon no other wicket had fallen and the score stood at 76.

The game was resumed at a quarter to 3. Messrs Forster and Cochrane had charge of the bowling. Mr Thomas obtained a couple of twos on the leg side, while a drive by Mr Butler added three. Directly afterwards Mr Thomas was clean bowled. He had shown excellent form for his runs, and with Mr Butler had put on 61. Mr Buxton gave little trouble, as after 10 runs had been added he gently cut the ball into point's hands. Five for 95.

The order of going in given on the card was here altered, Mr Woods coming in before Mr Gosling. The 100 was completed by a wide at a quarter past 3. Mr Butler obtained two by a drive and three by a cut, but at 107 he played on. He had been in an hour and a half for his 37. Six down. Messrs Gosling and Woods were now together. The latter drove Mr Forster to the off for four, but at 127 he was easily caught at mid-off. Seven down. Mr Ford, after making a drive for two, was well taken at wicket, and eight batsmen were out for 129.

Messrs Gosling and Meyrick-Jones were now associated. After several singles Mr Gosling drove Mr Cochrane to the boundary. Mr Croome resumed bowling for Mr Forster at 138, but the score rose steadily and at ten minutes past 4 the 150 went up. Mr Gosling next sent Mr Cochrane to leg for four, and after Mr Meyrick-Jones had given a possible chance of stumping he drove the other bowler with a like result. Messrs Nepean and Fowler now took up the attack, and at 165 the latter sent Mr Meyrick-Jones's off stump down. Thirty-six were added for the ninth wicket. Mr M'Gregor was in, and after six runs had been scored he played on, the innings closing at 4.35 for 171. Mr Gosling took out his bat for a well-played 29, in which were two fours, a three and four twos.

Oxford began batting at five minutes to 5 with Messrs Gresson and Simpson. Mr Woods opened the attack from the pavilion end with his field disposed thus: - Mr M'Gregor, wicket; Mr Kemp, point; Mr Thomas, cover-point; Mr Crawley, mid-off; Mr Mordaunt, mid-on; Mr Gosling, extra slip; Mr Meyrick-Jones, long slip; Mr Ford, slip; Mr Buxton, third man; and Mr Butler, long-leg. Mr Gresson, in the first over, obtained two by a drive and four from a cut.

Mr Ford was the other bowler, his field being as follows: - Mr Kemp, point; Mr Thomas, third man; Mr Buxton, slip; Mr Jones, extra mid-off; Mr Gosling, extra slip; Mr Mordaunt, mid-on; Mr Woods, cover-point; Mr M'Gregor, wicket; Mr Crawley, mid-off; and Mr Butler, long-off. The score quickly reached 12, and then Mr Simpson was very finely stumped. The Hon Mr Thesiger arrived, and with the figures at 17 heavy rain necessitated a retirement to the pavilion.

After half an hour's interval the game was resumed. The rain, of course, was an advantage to the batsmen, both of whom scored rapidly. Among other hits Mr Gresson obtained four by a drive, while a cut by Mr Thesiger realized the same number. Mr Buxton displaced Mr Ford at 39, and at 43 Mr Woods gave way to Mr Mordaunt. Mr Thesiger hit each bowler to the leg boundary, and the 50 was reached after 40 minutes' play. Six runs later, however, Mr Thesiger was clean bowled. He had played an excellent innings of 26.

Mr Rashleigh aided Mr Gresson, and at 59 Mr Woods resumed bowling. The Oxford captain played his first ball to square-leg for four, and after several smaller hits the bowlers crossed over at 72. Mr Gresson was then easily caught and bowled for a capital 30. Three for 75. Lord George Scott aided Mr Rashleigh, but when a couple of runs were added rain stopped the game, and at five minutes to 7 stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 5 July, page 11)

In fitful weather the match between the Universities was continued at Lord's yesterday. Again the attendance was large and numbered about 10,000. The members mustered in great force, and among those present were the Duke of Buccleuch . . . [etc.] On the previous day Cambridge had completed an innings for 171, and three Oxford wickets were down for 77.

It had been arranged to resume the game at 11 o'clock, but a very heavy shower delayed the start until 5 minutes past 12. Mr Rashleigh and Lord George Scott, the not-outs with 11 and 1, were then opposed by Messrs Woods and Ford, the former bowling from the opposite end to that of the previous evening. From the first ball Mr Rashleigh gave a sharp return chance, but he profited little by his escape, as at 78 he was clean bowled by Mr Woods. Four down.

Mr Forster came in. Lord George Scott after making two by a square-leg hit nearly lost his wicket. The batsmen started for a run from a hit to cover-point. So well was the ball returned by Mr Woods that Lord George Scott should have been run out. Mr Ford, however, broke the wicket before he had the ball and failed to get the stump up in time. Directly afterwards Mr Forster was badly missed by Mr Mordaunt at mid-on from a short-pitched ball of Mr Ford's. Afterwards Lord George Scott drove Mr Woods for two and played him to square leg for three. Mr Mordaunt now relieved Mr Ford, but Lord George Scott made three drives for two each from him. At 94 Mr Forster was bowled by a "yorker" and, after four singles had been added, Mr Nepean was beaten by the same bowler. Six for 98.

With Mr Croome in three maiden overs were sent down before the new batsman, by a drive for two, brought up the 100 at 10 minutes to 1. Lord George Scott sent Mr Woods to leg for three, but at 105 Mr Croome, after giving a sharp chance to point, was clean bowled – off stump. Seven down. Mr Philipson made matters lively directly he came in, and quickly scored six in one over from Mr Croome. Afterwards Lord George Scott made the first boundary hit of the morning – a drive – from Mr Mordaunt's bowling. Messrs Ford and Buxton were then put on; but at 118 rain stopped the

game. Play was not resumed until after luncheon.

Messrs Woods and Mordaunt were the bowlers at a quarter to 3. Mr Philipson hit the former to leg for four (all run out), but at 123 Lord George Scott's excellent innings was closed by a catch at mid-on. He had made 32 by one four, two threes, six twos and singles. In the next over Mr Cochrane had his leg stump bowled down, while Mr Philipson was taken by Mr Crawley running from mid-off. Time, 2.55; total 124. The last three wickets were disposed of much quicker than had been anticipated. During the morning Mr Woods had taken five wickets for 16 runs.

Cambridge went in a second time at a quarter past 3 with an advantage of 47. Messrs Buxton and Mordaunt opened the batting to the attacks of Messrs Cochrane and Forster. The scoring was very slow. A single was the only item in half a dozen overs, and 14 more were sent down before the score reached 11 in 25 minutes. Mr Buxton shortly afterwards enlivened matters by a crisp forward cut to the boundary. Twenty-seven overs had been bowled for 18, when Mr Croome was put on in lieu of Mr Forster. This alteration had the effect desired, for, with the first ball of the second over, Mr Croome got Mr Mordaunt caught at slip. If the order of going in had been altered with the idea of scoring fast on the wet wicket it was not successful, as nearly three-quarters of an hour had elapsed when Mr Mordaunt left at 21.

Mr Kemp came in. Mr Buxton obtained two by a cut, and the new batsman played Mr Cochrane to leg for three. The last-named handed the ball to Mr Fowler at 29. Mr Kemp cut Mr Croome finely for four and drove the other bowler for a couple. However, at 37, he played the ball tamely into point's hands. Two down. Mr Thomas joined his captain, who cut Mr Fowler for three, bringing Mr Cochrane on again at 47. The 50 was completed at half-past 4. A single later Mr Buxton, who had played very well, was clean bowled, and Mr Butler appeared.

The two batsmen were now together who had made the stand in the other innings. Runs were added steadily, but the close Oxford fielding prevented the total being increased very rapidly. In the next eight overs only a single was recorded. Subsequently Mr Butler cut Mr Croome twice for two, while a similar hit for three by Mr Thomas increased the score to 60. Mr Butler next obtained three by a drive, so at 60 the bowling underwent another change – Mr Forster for Mr Cochrane. Six singles were added in a quarter of an hour, and at 75 Mr Fowler was put on at the pavilion end. With his first ball the latter clean bowled Mr Thomas. Four for 75.

Mr Crawley arrived. Mr Fowler twice nearly bowled Mr Butler, after which Mr Crawley was completely beaten by a ball from that gentleman. Half the wickets were now down for 81. Mr Woods came in and, after scoring a couple in the slips, was twice almost bowled. Several singles and some extras raised the score to 91, when a fast ball from Mr Fowler dismissed Mr Woods. Six down.

Mr Gosling joined Mr Butler who, by a drive for four, brought up the 100 at 20 minutes to 6. Messrs Cochrane and Croome were now put on to bowl, and with success. The former at once for Mr Butler caught at slip. He had been in an hour and a quarter for his 26, which, under the circumstances, was a capital innings. Seven for 105. Mr Ford was badly missed by Mr Nepean at mid-off from a skier before he had scored. As it happened, the mistake mattered little, as at 108 he was out to a well-judged catch at long-off. Eight down.

Mr Meyrick-Jones joined Mr Gosling, who had been in 35 minutes for a single. The new-comer soon grew busy. He obtained two fours and a three by drives and, after Mr Fowler had gone on at 125, he drove him [for] four and scored a like number through the slips. Meantime Mr Gosling

drove Mr Cochrane for three, and at 137 Mr Gresson went on for that bowler. Mr Meyrick-Jones continued to hit vigorously; he played Mr Fowler to square-leg for four and drove him to the off-boundary. At 145 Mr Forster displaced Mr Fowler, and the change should have been successful as, in his first over, Mr Jones was missed in the long field by Mr Fowler. The 150 was telegraphed at 20 minutes to 7, but in the next over Mr Meyrick-Jones was caught at extra mid-off, at the second attempt. Forty-three had been added for the ninth wicket, and of this number Mr Meyrick-Jones had scored 36; his hits included six fours.

Mr M'Gregor followed in. Mr Gosling made drives for three and two, while Mr M'Gregor obtained four by a leg hit. At 170, however, Mr M'Gregor obstructed his wicket, and the innings closed within a few minutes of 7 o'clock. Oxford began their second innings with the task of getting 218 to win.

Day 4 (report from Friday 6 July, page 11)

Since the establishment of the University match in 1827 there had only been two drawn games before yesterday. On each of the three occasions rain has been the cause. Yesterday the early morning was fine, but shortly before 11 o'clock rain fell heavily, and it was not until half-past 12 that the weather cleared.

By that time the playing ground had become completely saturated, and it was apparent that no start could be made for at least an hour. On inspecting the wicket the umpires then found the pitch still too wet to play. It was agreed to wait a further half-hour before arriving at any decision. After this the turf was found in an unfit state and another hour passed. The light roller was put over the wicket, but rain again began to fall in torrents. So severe was the storm that in 20 minutes the water almost covered the centre of the ground. Cricket was now altogether impracticable; stumps were at once drawn and the match amid great regret abandoned. Several thousand spectators were present at Lord's.

On Wednesday night the match was left in a very interesting state, and when the rain first fell yesterday, the wicket became so easy that the chances of Oxford obtaining the 218 required for victory were considerably improved. The last drawn match was played in 1844.

2 July: YORKSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3354.html)

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

Heavy rain fell at Sheffield yesterday and prevented a start being made with this match at Bramall-lane Ground. Weather permitting, the game will begin to-day at 11 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 4 July, page 5)

At Sheffield yesterday rain again prevented a start in the match between these counties. If possible a beginning will be made to-day.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 5 July, page 11)

After two days' inactivity owing to the adverse weather these counties began their match yesterday at [Bramall]-lane, Sheffield. The visitors won the toss and decided to go in. The wicket was quite in favour of the bowlers, and an hour and three-quarters sufficed for the dismissal of the entire eleven for 54.

Hall batted well for Yorkshire, and 80 were registered with half the batsmen got rid of. Now came the feature of the match. The Rev J R Napier, who contributed so materially to Lancashire's victory over the Australians, and Watson took the last five wickets without a single run being added. Lancashire went in a second time, and the match was left drawn . . .

5 June: LANCASHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3355.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 July, page 11)

Yesterday Middlesex and Lancashire began their match at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester. At a quarter to 2 rain came on, and subsequently it was decided to postpone further play until today.

Day 2 (scorecard but no report from Saturday 7 July, page 12)

Day 3 (report from Monday 9 July, page 10)

After the first two days' play in the match between these counties at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, Lancashire had secured a great advantage, as they compelled their opponents to follow on against a majority of 106.

Middlesex began their second innings on Saturday morning, shortly after 12 o'clock, to the bowling of Briggs and Watson. The start was not hopeful, as Messrs Walker, Webbe and Hadow were all out for 20 runs. Messrs O'Brien and Vernon, however, made a determined stand and put on 46. The latter was caught in the long-field, after which the venture came rapidly to a close, and by a quarter to 2 Lancashire had won in an innings with 21 runs to spare.

5 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3356.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 July, page 11)

The wet weather prevented any play in the match between these counties which should have begun yesterday at the Trent-bridge, Nottingham. A start will be made this morning at 11 o'clock. The home side consist of . . .

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

Another instance of the slow scoring which generally characterizes cricket at the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, has to be recorded as the result of the play in this match yesterday.

Day 3 (report from Monday 9 July, page 10)

As rain prevented any play on Thursday this match was limited to two days, which time proved altogether insufficient for its decision. When the game was resumed on Saturday morning the home side had completed an innings for 143, and Yorkshire had lost four wickets for 88.

Wainwright and Hall, the not-outs, raised the total to 109 before they were separated. Hall was in three hours and 40 minutes for his 22. Several other batsmen were quickly dismissed, but eventually the innings realized 152.

Nottinghamshire went in a second time, nine runs behind. The first five wickets realized 78, but the others offered little resistance to the bowling of Wainwright, and the venture closed for 114. Yorkshire required 106 to win, and eventually the game was drawn.

5 June: SUSSEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3357.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 July, page 11)

There was an interesting day's cricket at the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday, when Sussex and Kent began their match. Among the absentees from the visiting side was Wootton, who has not yet recovered from the injury he sustained in the North of England last week.

Beyond a shower the weather was fine, but the wicket played a little slow. Sussex had first innings. Against the Kent bowling the batsmen, with the exception of Quaife and Humphreys, could make little headway. The latter played especially well for his 38.

Kent went in at a quarter past 4. After losing Mr Tonge and F Hearne for 27, Mr Fox and G G Hearne made a determined stand and put on 71 runs.

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

Kent quite maintained the advantage they had obtained on the opening day of this match at Brighton yesterday.

Day 3 (report from Monday 9 July, page 10)

The drawing of stumps at the Hove Ground, Brighton, on Friday left this game greatly in favour of the visitors, who, with eight wickets to fall, required only 57 for victory. On Saturday morning the necessary runs were obtained, and Kent won the match by five wickets.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/105/105694.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 July, page 11)

After their victory at Liverpool the Australians journeyed to Leicester, where yesterday they opened the 18th match of their tour against the home county.

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

On a treacherous wicket at the Aylestone-road Ground, Leicester, yesterday, the Australian team suffered the fourth defeat of their tour, being beaten by the county team by 20 runs.

6 July: ESSEX v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128523.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 7 July, page 12)

Several of the gentlemen who took part in the University match at Lord's this week were engaged yesterday in the game between these counties at Leyton.

Day 2 (report from Monday 9 July, page 10)

At Leyton on Saturday the match between Essex and Hampshire was productive of interesting cricket. When play ceased on Friday Hampshire had begun their first innings and scored 34 without loss of wicket. Messrs Forster and Seymour again played well, but after their dismissal Baldwin was the only batsman to score with freedom.

Essex went in a second time with arrears of 67. They lost seven wickets for 47, but afterwards Burns and Mr Fowler made a stand and added 65. This was the precise number Hampshire required to win, and in 35 minutes they obtained 56. The subjoined score will show that the game was drawn.

9 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3358.html)

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

The chief match of a purely English character still retains its hold upon the public. Within a few minutes of noon yesterday many thousand spectators had taken up their positions at Lord's, and every ball was attentively watched by a company evidently critical.

The selection of representative teams is always a matter of extreme difficulty. Neither of the University captains figured among the amateurs. Mr Rashleigh was asked, but could not play. Mr Patterson also was unable to take part in the game. Dr W G Grace, who first figured in this match 23 years ago, was, of course, included. Surrey sent Messrs W W Read, J Shuter and M P Bowden; Sussex, Messrs W Newham and C A Smith; Lancashire, Messrs A G Steel and J Eccles; Nottinghamshire, Mr J [A] Dixon; and Oxford and Cambridge each had one representative, Lord George Scott, who made 100 for his University last season, and S M J Woods. Nottinghamshire supplied more of the Players than any other county – namely, five, Gunn, Barnes, Flowers, Sherwin and Attewell; Surrey, three, Abel, Maurice Read and Lohmann; Yorkshire, two, Ulyett and Peel; and Lancashire, one, Briggs.

As in so many important matches this season, the weather was quite unsuited to cricket. Rain fell several times throughout the day, though not fast enough to stop play. The light was dismal a treacherous in the extreme towards the evening. The Players, having won the toss, decided to put their opponents in. Shortly after 12 o'clock Dr Grace and Mr Shuter opened the batting to the bowling of Lohmann (pavilion end) and Briggs.

The principal items for some time were three drives by Dr Grace, which realized seven. Eleven runs were scored in as many overs, and then the Surrey captain was clean bowled. Mr Newham arrived to the aid of Dr Grace. The former made a fine square-leg hit from Lohmann to the boundary, but at 21 a clever piece of stumping sent back Dr Grace. Two down.

Messrs Read and Newham were now together, and runs were added steadily. Mr Read drove Briggs for four, and Mr Newham cut the other bowler for three. At 32, however, Mr Read, attempting to hit to leg, was clean bowled. With Mr A G Steel in runs came quickly, chiefly from the bat of Mr Newham. Peel displaced Briggs at 42, and five runs later Barnes received the ball from Lohmann. With his first delivery the Nottinghamshire bowler got Mr Newham well caught at wicket. He had shown good form for his 25.

Mr Dixon came next, and at 1.25 the 50 was completed. At 54 Mr Steel was clean bowled, making five wickets down. Mr Eccles came in. Mr Dixon cut a ball for four. Five more runs were slowly added when a very good catch at mid-off caused Mr Dixon's retirement. Six for 65. Lord George Scott, who followed in, placed Barnes to leg for three. An easy piece of stumping dismissed the last-named batsman at 70, and seven wickets were down at the luncheon interval.

The game was resumed at a quarter to 3, when Peel and Barnes had charge of the bowling. Mr Woods, the new batsman, obtained several sharp runs before he obstructed his wicket. Mr Bowden was easily stumped, and nine were out for 74. Messrs Smith and Eccles added 10 before the former was caught at wicket. Total, 84. Mr Eccles was in an hour for his four runs.

Ulyett and Abel began the Players' innings at half-past 3 to the bowling of Mr Woods (pavilion end) and Mr Smith. Five overs were sent down for six runs, and then Abel hit Mr Smith to leg for three. Afterwards the score rose slowly to 14, at which total two wickets fell; Abel was bowled, and the first ball sent Gunn struck his off stump. Barnes joined Ulyett, who drove a ball from Mr Woods to the off boundary. Twenty were recorded as the result of half-an-hour's play. A single later Barnes was secured at cover-point.

With three good wickets down for 21, the outlook for the Players was no better than it had been for the Gentlemen. Maurice Read, however, quickly enlivened matters. He scored seven, increasing a leg hit for four, in an over from Mr Woods, who gave way to Mr Steel at 40. By drives for three and four Ulyett completed the 50 at 20 minutes past 4. Mr Dixon was now put on in lieu of Mr Smith, and two more wickets were quickly captured – Read and Briggs both bowled – and half the batsmen were out for 52.

Peel joined Ulyett. As runs were added steadily Mr Woods resumed bowling, and at 66 Dr Grace relieved Mr Dixon amid some applause. Subsequently the figures quickly reached 80, and then Ulyett was bowled by a "bailer" from Mr Woods. He had played an excellent innings of 38. Attewell followed in, and by a cut for four he sent the score past the Gentlemen's total. Mr Smith again went on at 86 for Dr Grace, and with three runs added he bowled Attewell. Seven for 89.

Lohmann's stay was brief and unproductive, as at 90 he was caught at extra mid-off before he had scored. Flowers was the next on the order. Peel cut Mr Woods finely to the boundary, while a single by his partner brought up the 100 amid loud cheers at half-past 5. Directly afterwards a good ball from Mr Woods struck Flowers's leg stump. Nine for 100. Peel was next bowled, and the innings terminated at 20 minutes to 6 for 107. Throughout the innings the fielding had been very good.

Against a majority of 23 the Gentlemen went in a second time at 6 o'clock. Dr Grace and Mr Shuter again opened their batting to the attacks of Lohmann and Briggs. The Gloucestershire captain soon grew busy. He obtained three by drives and seven by leg hits. Ten more overs were sent down for as many runs, and at 21 Attewell relieved Briggs. Three runs later Dr Grace completely lost a ball from Lohmann and retired for 21.

Mr Newham aided Mr Shuter; but at 29 he was clean bowled. Mr Walter Read stayed while five were slowly added, and was then bowled in playing forward to a ball from Lohmann. Three for 34. A single later Mr Steel was caught at wicket, and four were down. Mr Dixon came in, but no addition was made to the score. During the hour that the Gentlemen had been in the light was very bad and accounted in some manner for the rapid dismissal of several of the batsmen.

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

Although there was a decided improvement in the weather at Lord's yesterday, it did not have a corresponding effect on the batting of the Gentlemen. The smallness of the scoring, however, was so general that the match possessed a relative if concentrated interest until the last ball was bowled. The company was again numerous, and they were quite compensated for the briefness of the day's cricket by the exciting character of the finish.

The victory of the Gentlemen was well deserved for the thoroughness of their fielding, in the Players' second innings, if for nothing else, while the bowling of Mr Woods was excellent. The

Gentlemen were last successful in 1884. On that occasion they won by six wickets, and exactly a thousand runs were scored. In 1883 at the Oval there was a tie match. It may be noted that although Dr Grace's figures were small he obtained more runs than any other batsman of his side.

When stumps were drawn on Monday evening each side had completed an innings, while the Gentlemen, having begun their second venture, had lost four wickets for 35. As they were 25 behind at the close of an innings each, the amateurs were this only 12 runs on. At five minutes past 11 Messrs Shuter and Dixon, the not outs with 5 and 0, went on with the batting. Lohmann (pavilion end) and Briggs had charge of the attack.

The first three overs were maidens, after which, by the aid of singles, the score was increased by 13 in half an hour. Mr Dixon was then out leg before, and five wickets were now down for 48. Mr Eccles joined Mr Shuter, who, by a single, sent up the 50 at 20 minutes to 12. In the same over Mr Eccles hit Lohmann to leg for three, and shortly afterwards he scored the first four of the day (a drive) from the other end. Mr Eccles next obtained a couple by a drive and three from a leg hit. Attewell relieved Briggs at 63, and from the second ball of his next over he easily caught and bowled Mr Eccles. Lord George Scott arrived to the aid of Mr Shuter. The Surrey captain hit a ball from Lohmann over the runs in front of the tavern, but from the next he was clean bowled. He had played with great care and has seldom been in so long for a small score; his 17 occupied him two hours.

Mr Woods arrived. Four overs were sent down for a single. Mr Woods then drove Attewell for two, and after a few maidens he repeated the hit with a like result. The score was slowly advanced to 77, when Barnes relieved Lohmann. Lord George Scott scored his first run after being in 35 minutes. At 83 Mr Woods, who had hit with some freedom, was easily caught at extra cover point. Eight for 83. Mr Bowden quickly grew busy. He obtained two by an off drive and a single, while Lord George Scott obtained four by a well-timed hit to square leg. Mr Bowden drove Attewell to the off boundary, but from the next ball he was easily caught at mid-off. Nine for 97.

Mr Smith arrived, and by a leg hit for three he sent up the 100 at a quarter to 1 amid loud cheers. In the next over from Barnes Lord George Scott was clean bowled for a carefully played eight. He was in nearly an hour for his runs. During the morning the fielding had been excellent.

The Players required 78 for victory, and at five minutes past 1 they sent in Abel and Ulyett. Messrs Woods (pavilion end) and Smith were the bowlers. Abel hit the latter's first ball to square leg for four and the second in the same direction for three. He next drove Mr Woods for three, but in the same over Ulyett had his leg stump bowled down. One for 10.

Gunn came in. After four byes had been recorded Mr Steel was applauded for good fielding at slip. Gunn drove Mr Woods for a couple of twos, while Abel hit Mr Smith to the square leg boundary. This quick rate of run-getting brought on Mr Steel for Mr Smith at 28. Just previously Gunn had given a chance at the wicket. He profited little by this escape, as at 32 he was easily caught at short leg. Two down. Barnes joined Abel. The former was appealed against for obstructing his wicket soon after his arrival, but the umpire answered in the negative. At 35, however, Mr Steel again asked for "leg before," and Barnes had to retire. Three down.

Maurice Read assisted Abel. Each batsman obtained two runs by a drive, but at 41 Maurice Read played the ball easily into the hands of Mr Woods at mid-on. With four good batsmen out and 38 still to obtain for victory the outlook was none too hopeful, especially as the Gentlemen were bowling and fielding remarkably well. Briggs cut Mr Steel late for three and obtained a single from

the other end. At 45, however, he was easily caught and bowled, and half the wickets were down. By this time the luncheon interval had arrived.

The game was resumed at 10 minutes to 3, when Peel joined Abel. Messrs Steel and Woods were the bowlers. A drive for three by Peel brought up 50 at five minutes to 3. Every ball was watched with great interest, and the excitement seemed general among the spectators. A leg-bye and a single came from Mr Woods's next over. Abel then skied the ball just over Dr Grace's head at point. Had the Gloucestershire captain jumped up a little sooner he might possibly have caught the ball. Directly afterwards, however, Abel was clean bowled. He had played a very good innings of 30. Six for 53.

Twenty-five were still wanted to win when Attewell came in. Five overs were sent down for a single. Peel then drove Mr Woods for three and hit the other bowler to leg for two. The score was further increased by a bye, after which Attewell played Mr Steel to square leg for three and cut the other bowler for two. He scored three in Mr Steel's next over, which brought the figures to 71. Mr Smith now relieved Mr Steel – a change which many people thought might have been adopted a few overs earlier. After a single from Peel, Mr Smith in his second over clean bowled Attewell, and seven wickets were down for 72.

Only six were wanted to win when, amid great excitement, Peel was clean bowled by the first ball after Lohmann's arrival. Eight down. Flowers came next, but Mr Smith got Lohmann out leg before. The interest now became intense. Sherwin followed in, but Mr Woods then clean bowled Flowers, and loud cheers greeted the Gentlemen's victory by five runs. The last four wickets fell at the same total. Great enthusiasm was aroused by the result, and there were repeated calls for "Woods" in front of the pavilion at the close. It is many years since such an exciting finish has been witnessed at Lord's.

9 July: DERBYSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/105/105695.html)

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

After their unexpected defeat at the hands of Leicestershire, the colonials yesterday began their match with Derbyshire at Derby. Mr Blackham was omitted from the visitors' eleven.

The county began the play, and half the wickets were obtained for 18. The remaining batsmen were dismissed for an addition of 27, and this score of 45, after two hours' play, gave Derbyshire the unenviable distinction of having the lowest total yet made against the colonials.

Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman as usual opened the visitors' batting, and the start was weak, as at 5 the Australian captain was bowled. The county total, however, was overtopped at 25 minutes to 4 . . .

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

Another victory, by an innings and 79 runs, has to be recorded for the Australians, making the 12th of the tour.

12 July: ENGLAND XI v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3359.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 13 July, page 11)

With a record of 12 victories, four losses and three drawn games, the Australians entered upon their 20th engagement at Stoke yesterday. The match was against an eleven of England, under the captaincy of Mr A H Heath, of Staffordshire. The home side comprised players from the counties of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire and Staffordshire, and Cambridge University. Mr Bannerman was absent from the Australian side.

The recent heavy rain had so saturated the ground that a start was not made until 3 o'clock. The Australians won the toss, went in and had lost eight wickets at the call of time.

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

Another victory has been added to the Australian list by their match against an English Eleven which ended yesterday at Stoke. The heavy scoring of the Colonials was met by most feeble efforts on the part of the home team. It should be noted that the wicket when they were batting was exceedingly difficult. From the complete score it will be seen that the Australians won by an innings and 135 runs.

12 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3360.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 13 July, page 11)

Rain fell during the whole of yesterday morning at Kennington Oval, and had such an effect on the wicket that it was decided to defer beginning this match until to-day at half-past 11.

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

Following in the wake of the older match at Lord's, the contest at the Oval between the amateur and professional talent attracts very great attention. Rain prevented a start being made on Thursday; but yesterday the weather was delightful and many thousand spectators witnessed the play. The wicket was all in favour of the bowlers. Both teams had three variations from those played at headquarters. Mr A G Steel, Lord George Scott and Mr Eccles were replaced by Messrs Patterson, Ford and Buxton, while Attewell, Flowers and Sherwin gave way to Sugg, Wright and Wood.

Ulyett and Abel opened the batting at 11.35 for the Players, who had won the toss. Mr Woods started with a maiden from the pavilion end, but in the first over of Mr Smith's bowling Abel made seven by two leg hits. To these his companion responded by sending each bowler to leg for three and four. Six overs produced 18 runs and then the Yorkshireman was bowled. Gunn came and runs were obtained at the rate of about one a minute until at 41 Abel's leg stump was struck. Barnes was driven on to his wicket at the same total and eight runs later Read was easily secured at point. Four wickets, all from Mr Woods's bowling, were lost for 49, and Sugg joined Gunn.

The first hour's play yielded 50 runs. At 57 Mr Ford relieved Mr Smith, and the first ball Sugg cut to the boundary. He then made two drives from Mr Woods for four, the ball on one occasion pitching into the pavilion inclosure. Gunn also drove the Cambridge bowler for four and a double change was tried. Dr Grace superseded Mr Ford and Mr Smith went on at the pavilion end for Mr Woods. A forward cut by Sugg sent the total to 90, when Gunn was bowled off stump and half the batsmen were disposed of. With the addition of three leg-byes Sugg was bowled; his 28 included four fours.

Peel and Briggs were now together and a cut to the boundary by the latter completed the 100 at 25 minutes past 1. Mr Woods relieved Dr Grace for a few overs; but at 123 the Gloucestershire captain resumed, and four runs later Mr Smith handed the ball to Mr Buxton. Peel obstructed his wicket, and Lohmann assisted Briggs to advance the total to 140, when the luncheon interval was taken.

Afterwards Messrs Woods and Smith divided the attack. Seven runs were added in five overs, and then Lohmann, in trying to hit round to leg, was secured at slip, and Briggs played on. Nine down. Wood cut Mr Smith well for four, and was further credited with eight runs from two lucky hits through the slips. He added another four more to leg, and at 176 Mr Woods gave way to Mr Dixon and Dr Grace relieved Mr Smith. From the former change Wood was easily caught at mid-off. Total 176; duration of innings, three hours and a quarter.

Dr Grace and Mr Shuter began the Gentlemen's batting at five minutes to 4, the latter having a substitute to run for him. Lohmann and Peel were the bowlers. In the second over Mr Grace skied

the ball, and Gunn at third man had an easy catch, but dropped it; he, however, had the sun in his eyes. The batsman did not long profit by this escape, as after Mr Shuter had cut Lohmann for four he was easily caught at point. Mr Shuter was immediately afterwards taken at wicket and two batsmen were dismissed for seven runs.

Messrs Patterson and W W Read were together. The former was by no means at home and soon fell to the dexterity of the wicket-keeper. Mr Newham stayed while his companion contributed, among other items, two drives for four each, and then played on. Four for 41. Mr Dixon aided Mr Read, who drove Lohmann to the off boundary, and at 48 that bowler gave way to Barnes, in whose second over Mr Dixon was sharply caught at point. Mr Read having made a further drive to the on for four fell to a capital catch at cover-point. Mr Buxton was soon bowled, and seven wickets were down for 55. The last three batsmen only added 21 - Mr Woods and Mr Smith bowled and Mr Ford caught at wicket. Total 76, which had taken an hour and a half to obtain.

Precisely 100 runs behind, the Gentlemen followed on at a quarter to 6 with Dr Grace and Mr Patterson. The bowling was entrusted to Lohmann and Briggs. In the third over the Kentish batsman, who is evidently out of practice, was bowled. Mr Newham hit Lohmann to leg for three, but then the Gloucestershire captain was run out. Two wickets for five, and with arrears of 95, was anything but a cheerful outlook for the amateurs.

Messrs Newham and Read became associated. Both batted with commendable caution. Twenty-five minutes were occupied in getting 10 runs. Mr Read then sent Briggs to leg for four. A single by Mr Newham was the only contribution in four overs, after which Mr Read was splendidly caught at point, and Mr Dixon joined Mr Newham, who, a couple of runs later, was clean bowled. Four for 17. Mr Shuter sent Lohmann to leg for five [incorrect]; this and a single to each batsman was the only item in eight overs. Mr Shuter and Mr Ford were bowled by successive balls. Six for 23.

Mr Buxton, who joined Mr Dixon, soon returned the ball, and Mr Woods arrived. An idea of the caution displayed may be gathered from the fact that 30 runs took an hour and 10 minutes to get. Wood, who kept wicket admirably, dismissed Mr Dixon by a clever piece of stumping, and eight batsmen were out for 34. Although there were cries of "Play on," the game then ceased for the day.

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

The hopes that the two remaining wickets of the Gentlemen's second venture in this match at the Oval might avert a single innings defeat were not realized. It will be remembered that on the first day there was no play, and when stumps were drawn on Friday the Players had completed an innings for 176, and the Gentlemen were out once for 76 and had lost eight wickets of the follow-on for 34.

Mr Woods (not out 5) had Mr Bowden for a companion on Saturday morning, and at half-past 11 Briggs and Lohmann led off the attack. For the addition of a couple of runs Mr Woods got in front of his wicket. Nine for 36. Mr Smith joined Mr Bowden when 65 were still wanting to prevent the innings disaster.

For a little while it seemed possible that these would be made. Mr Bowden scored seven by two leg hits and Mr Smith cut Briggs for three. When 61 had been reached, however, Mr Bowden, who had previously had an escape at the hands of Wood, was stumped by him. Thus the Players amply compensated for their narrow defeat in the early part of the week with a victory by an innings and

39 runs.

16 July: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3361.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 17 July, page 11)

A more perfect contrast to last week could scarcely be found than that afforded at Lord's yesterday. The fashionable array of spectators that graced through ground on Friday and Saturday was replaced by a compact circle – in places eight and ten deep – of cricket enthusiasts.

The wicket on examination in the morning was found to be in such a saturated state as to cause any idea of play to be given over until after luncheon. A placard to this effect was posted outside the gate. When the gate was at length opened the rush was so sudden as to cause a block. However, the road gradually became cleared and the seats in the covered terraces, which were nearly all thrown open to the public, were soon occupied. The company at one time numbered about 14,000.

The first Australian team in 1878 did not play England; but the second were beaten at the Oval by five wickets. The third defeated England at Kennington by seven runs. The fourth played three matches – two were drawn, but the other, at Lord's, England won by an innings and five runs. The fifth and last Australian eleven met England on three occasions and were defeated each time - at Manchester by four wickets, at Lord's by an innings and 106 runs, and at the Oval by an innings and 217 runs.

There were two alterations at the last moment in the England eleven – Mr Shuter, whose lameness at the Oval caused him to have a substitute to run for him, gave way to Abel, while Mr T C O'Brien took the place of Attewell – a change which, under the condition of the wicket, met with general approval. Dr Grace and Mr A G Steel are the only two members of the present team who have been in all the previous England sides. The play throughout yesterday afternoon evoked the keenest interest.

In case of the weather becoming wet it was decided not to toss until the last minute. Shortly before 3 the colonials were successful in this, and directly afterwards Messrs Grace, Steel and Read entered the field, followed by the other members of the side. Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman were the early batsmen. Lohmann opened the bowling from the pavilion end, with the field thus: - Sherwin, wicket; Barnes, slip; Mr Read, third man; Dr Grace, point; Briggs, cover-point; Peel, extra mid-off; Abel, mid-off; Gunn, long-on; Mr O'Brien, mid-on; Mr Steel, short leg. The first over was a maiden.

Peel, who bowled from the nursery wicket, had his field as follows: - Sherwin, wicket; Barnes, slip; Gunn, third man; Dr Grace, point; Lohmann, cover-point; Mr O'Brien, mid-off; Abel, side on the off side; Mr Read, long-off; Briggs, long-on; and Mr Steel, mid-on. In Lohmann's second over Mr Bannerman cut the ball sharply into the hands of point. Dr Grace seemed so joyful at having made the first catch in that match that he at once threw the ball over his head to third man. One wicket without a run was a good opening for the Englishmen.

Mr Trott joined his captain, who, having obtained a single, hit a full pitch from Lohmann with a like result. In Peel's next over Mr M'Donnell again secured a single, but from the next ball but one Mr Trott fell to an easy catch at cover-point. Two wickets for three runs.

Mr Bonnor's appearance was the signal for general applause. Mr M'Donnell now made the first big

hit of the day, a fine off-drive to the boundary. A couple of overs later he added a single, and Mr Bonnor made a bad hit in the slips. The Australian captain further enlivened matters by driving Peel straight and cutting him in the same over for four each. Mr Bonnor then made a lofty drive from Lohmann and was badly missed by Gunn at long-on. He seemed to misjudge the ball altogether, for when it got to him he had to take it very low down and it fell out of his hands. Mr Bonnor scored two runs from the hit. In the same over he was nearly bowled.

Directly afterwards the Englishmen made another serious mistake, as Mr M'Donnell drove the ball straight into Mr Read's hands at long-off, who failed to hold it. The Australian captain had then made 16 out of 18. These errors might have proved very expensive. Mr M'Donnell now drove Lohmann for two, while his companion scored four by a couple of drives, one of which passed just over Abel's head at cover-point. Mr M'Donnell obtained two from a cut and was then nearly bowled. Mr Bonnor ran out to hit a yorker from Lohmann; he missed it, but the ball being wide he escaped. His middle stump was bowled down in the same over, and three wickets were captured for 28. Mr Blackham came in, but having scored a single he lost the company of Mr M'Donnell – well caught at long-off by Mr O'Brien. He had scored 22, in which were three fours. It was a piece of good fortune for England to get rid of Messrs Bonnor and M'Donnell so cheaply after they had given them each a life. Four for 32 was the result of 40 minutes' play.

Mr Woods was loudly cheered as he journeyed to the wicket. Runs were added steadily. Mr Woods cut Lohmann for two and, having scored two more, his companion obtained three from a drive. Each batsman made a cut for two, which completed the 40 at 10 minutes to 4. Three runs later the first bowling change was adopted, Briggs displacing Peel. Mr Woods seemed very anxious to run, but his companion kept him back or he might have lost his wicket. An appeal against Mr Blackham for leg-before was answered in the negative. Mr Woods made four by a couple of drives. Three singles in as many overs raised the score to 50 at 5 minutes past 4; precisely an hour had elapsed since the start.

Mr Woods next drove Lohmann for two, so that at 52 Barnes superseded the latter. From his first ball Briggs elicited loud cheers by good fielding on the off-side. Mr Woods contributed three singles, while his companion made two drives and a leg hit for a couple each. Two byes increased the figures to 65, at which total Barnes, who had sent down three overs for eight runs, handed the ball to Mr Steel. With the figures unaltered Mr Woods was out to the other bowler, easily caught at third man by Gunn, who slipped in making the catch. An invaluable stand of 33 had been made for this wicket. Five for 65.

Mr Turner came to the assistance of Mr Blackham, who drove Mr Steel for three. Afterwards five overs were sent down for half a dozen runs, and at 73 Mr Steel handed the ball to Peel. Mr Blackham hit his first delivery to leg for three, but in his second over Mr Turner was well caught at extra mid-off. Six for 76. Mr Edwards came Mr Blackham was clean bowled before a run had been added; he was in nearly an hour for 22. Seven down. Mr Jarvis stayed four overs, during which he made a single and a couple to leg. He was then easily caught at extra mid-off, and eight wickets were down for 79. Mr Worrall, after three were added, was caught at mid-on.

Mr Ferris, the last man, arrived. Among smaller hits Mr Edwards obtained three by a cut, but in the following over he gave a difficult chance to Abel at forward short leg, and should have been run out from the same ball had Briggs taken it properly. At 91 Lohmann resumed bowling. In his first over Mr Ferris secured a three in the slips and Mr Edwards cut him finely for four. Directly afterwards the latter drove Briggs to the boundary, and the 100 was completed amid great applause. Three runs later Barnes went on in lieu of Briggs. Each batsman hit him to leg for three, while an on-drive

by Mr Edwards produced four. Mr Steel again took the ball at 116, and his second delivery proved fatal to Mr Ferris – caught at wicket. The stand had realized 34 runs. It was nearly 5.30 when the innings closed for a much better total than at one time seemed probable.

Dr Grace and Abel opened the English batting at a quarter to 6. Mr Turner, from the pavilion end, led off the attack with the team disposed thus: - Mr Trott, point; Mr Worrall, cover-point; Mr Woods, extra mid-off; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr Bonnor, long-on; Mr Jarvis, mid-on; Mr Edwards, leg; Mr M'Donnell, slip; Mr Ferris, third man; Mr Blackham, wicket. From the last ball of the over Abel made a single.

Mr Ferris had charge of the bowling at the nursery wicket, his field being distributed as follows: - Mr Trott, point; Mr Worrall, cover-point; Mr Woods, extra mid-off; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr Edwards, long-off; Mr M'Donnell, long-on; Mr Jarvis, mid-on; Mr Bonnor, slip; Mr Turner, long slip. Nothing was scored in the over.

A sharp appeal for leg-before against Dr Grace was answered in the batsman's favour, who then drove Mr Turner for two, after which Abel added a couple of singles. However, the professional soon went forward to play Mr Ferris and was clean bowled. One for five.

Barnes joined Dr Grace, who by no means seemed at home with the bowling. In the course of seven overs the Gloucestershire captain secured five runs, but then gave a difficult opportunity of stumping, which Mr Blackham failed to accept. Barnes played Mr Turner to leg for three, and then ten overs were sent down for a single. Barnes now hit the ball into the hands of mid-on, and four runs later Lohmann obstructed his wicket. Two for 14 and three for 18. Stumps were now drawn for the day. England had been in three-quarters of an hour, and the slow rate of scoring may be judged from the fact that only 18 runs were obtained.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 July, page 13)

The turf at Lord's had just sufficiently dried at the time set for resuming this match yesterday to be very difficult. Indeed, the bowlers were completely masters of the situation, and during the two hours and a half's play before the interval 17 wickets were captured. The whole of the cricket only extended over four hours and a quarter, and 27 batsmen were dismissed for an average of less than half-a-dozen runs each.

The England total of 53 is the lowest yet made in a representative match against the Australians. Making every allowance for the treacherous wicket, bitter disappointment was felt that a carefully chosen England side should twice be disposed of for 115 runs. This was a single below the total in the opening venture of the Australians, who thus practically won by an innings. The Colonial fielding was remarkably fine, and only one extra – a leg-bye – was scored in the double innings. In glancing at the feeble batting of the home team it should be noted that Dr W G Grace, although falling short of the great things always expected of him, obtained more runs than any other two batsmen of the Eleven.

The company was one of the largest that has ever assembled at Lord's, and at one time mustered about 20,000. This make the second victory of the Australians against England; the previous occasion was the memorable contest at Kennington Oval six years ago, when they won by seven runs. At the drawing of stumps on Monday eventually the Australians had finished an innings for 116, and three England wickets were down for 18.

With strict punctuality the game was continued at half-past 11, when Mr Turner completed his unfinished over of the previous night, Dr Grace being not out, 10. Mr Walter Read went in with the Gloucestershire captain, and Mr Ferris took up the bowling at the nursery wicket. Mr Read having made a single, his partner was nearly bowled. Three more runs, including a leg hit for two, were made by Mr Read, who, however, was then out to a splendid piece of stumping by Mr Blackham. Mr O'Brien came next, but from the third ball of the following over Dr Grace was caught at extra mid-off from a ball which he hit with the edge of his bat; Mr Woods just managed to make the catch. The great English batsman had been in an hour for his ten runs. Peel arrived only to see the dismissal of Mr O'Brien, who was altogether beaten by a ball which broke right across the wicket and took the top of the leg stump. Four, five and six for 22.

Gunn and Mr Steel were now associated. Evidently the English captain was bent on hitting, for he at once ran out to meet the ball before it had time to break. After a leg-bye had been recorded Mr Steel obtained three by an off-drive from Mr Ferris. In the next over, however, he ran out to drive and missing the ball was most easily stumped. Seven for 26. Gunn joined Peel, who obtained four by a leg-hit (run out) and three by a cut, while in the same over the Nottinghamshire batsman secured a couple through the slips. These nine runs made matters look a little brighter for England for there was great possibility of their following on. Two runs were still required to avert this disaster when Gunn was caught at wicket, and eight were down for 35.

Briggs now joined Peel. Every ball was watched with the greatest excitement. Briggs, however, by securing a single from each bowler saved the "follow," amid general applause a few minutes after noon. Later on Briggs followed up his success by hitting Mr Turner to square leg for four and two, the ball on the first occasion pitching among the spectators near the tennis court. Mr Woods now relieved Mr Ferris, after which eight overs were sent down for half as many runs. Both men seemed likely to get runs, but at 49 Peel had the misfortune to be run out through a misunderstanding with his partner. Nine for 49. Sherwin arrived, but Briggs having cut Mr Woods to the boundary was clean bowled by the next ball, which took the off-stump. Total, 53; time, 12.25. The innings had lasted an hour and 40 minutes.

With the substantial advantage of 63, the Australians went in a second time at 20 minutes to 1. Messrs Bannerman and M'Donnell opened the second innings to the bowling of Peel and Lohmann (pavilion end). Mr M'Donnell obtained a single, but the first ball of Lohmann's second over broke considerably and struck the leg-stump. The downfall of this dangerous batsman caused much cheering among the spectators and, of course, with an equal amount of dismay among the Australian supporters. The next ball from Peel clean bowled Mr Bannerman, and two wickets were down for a single.

Messrs Bonnor and Trott were next together. The former drove Lohmann for four and afterwards cut him for two, but at 13 Mr Trott, who had never seemed at home, had his off stump bowled down. Three for 13. Mr Blackham joined Mr Bonnor, who fell to an easy catch at cover-point at 15. Four down. Mr Woods followed in. He made a drive for two and a single from Lohmann, after which he skied the ball to Dr Grace at point. Two more wickets fell in succession in Lohmann's next over – Mr Blackham very rashly ran himself out and Mr Edwards was caught at wicket, first ball. Thus the fifth, sixth and seventh batsmen were all out at 18.

Mr Ferris now joined Mr Turner. Runs were scored rapidly. Each batsman made a drive for two, while Mr Turner drove Lohmann for four and two, and Mr Ferris secured a couple by a drive. The last-named made seven, and at 42 the first bowling change was tried – Briggs for Peel. Success

immediately attended the variation, as with his second ball the Lancastrian got Mr Turner well caught at point; Dr Grace made a splendid catch, taking the ball high up at the second attempt. Eight for 42. Mr Worrall stayed while seven runs (including a cut for three by himself) were added, and then had his leg stump hit out of the ground. Nine for 49.

Mr Jarvis joined Mr Ferris, who with a single completed the 50 at 10 minutes to 2. Four runs were scored in the next over and the English total was passed. A three to leg by each batsman raised the figures to 60, at which score Mr Steel and Peel took up the bowling. With his second ball the latter got Mr Jarvis caught at slip, and the innings terminated at 2 o'clock for 60. This was a far better total than at one time seemed probable.

England had 124 to obtain for victory, which, considering the state of the wicket, was by no means a light task. They began batting at a quarter to 3. Dr Grace and Abel opened the defence to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Ferris. Abel started the score with a single, after which Dr Grace obtained four by a cut and a drive. The batsmen played with great care, but it was almost a matter of impossibility to altogether avoid making bad hits. Thus Dr Grace put the ball close up to Mr Trott at point. Abel appeared very unsettled and frequently started for absurd runs. Twenty were obtained in a quarter of an hour. Three maidens followed, after which Dr Grace drove Mr Ferris for two and four. From the latter of these hits he was nearly caught in the long field by Mr Edwards, who touched the ball with his left hand. A couple of overs later Abel was easily caught at slip, the first wicket falling at 20 – an excellent start.

When Peel came in seven overs were sent down for five runs, and then Dr Grace was easily caught at mid-off. He had played a very good innings of 24, which had occupied three-quarters of an hour. Two down. Mr Read came in. Peel scored two singles and Mr Read a couple by a bad hit on the leg side. Peel was then clean bowled, the ball breaking very much and hitting the top of the wicket. Three for 38. Mr O'Brien aided Mr Read, who, having scored a single, was clean bowled. Four for 39. Mr Steel filled the vacancy. His companion registered two by a bad hit in the slips, and 40 went up after an hour's play. Mr Worrall was loudly cheered for stopping a hard drive from Mr O'Brien, who, a few minutes later, had the misfortune to play on. Five for 44.

Gunn came in. He secured a single and a couple by drives, while Mr Steel cut Mr Turner for two. Fifty went up amid applause shortly before 4 o'clock. Directly afterwards Gunn made a fine off-drive for three, good fielding by Mr Edwards at long-off preventing a boundary hit. He was then bowled by a ball which just grazed the off stump, and six wickets were lost for 55. The match was now almost over, as 68 runs were still wanted to avert defeat. The Australians fielded with great brilliancy and saved many runs. A single was the only item in the next three overs, and then Briggs had his leg stump struck. Seven for 56.

When Barnes came in the light had become very hazy. Mr Steel might have been stumped had a ball not hit Mr Blackham in the face. In Mr Ferris's next over two wickets fell – Barnes was stumped through the ball rebounding off Mr Blackham's pads, and Lohmann was easily dismissed from the first ball sent him. Sherwin, the last man, appeared. Mr Steel hit the ball to square-leg among the people, but his colleague was directly afterwards caught at short-leg and the innings was over for 62. This was precisely half the number they had required to win. Thus the Australians were victorious by 61 runs.

Thousands of the people gathered in front of the pavilion at the close and shouted lustily for the Australians. Mr M'Donnell and other members of the team acknowledged the cheers from the roof of the pavilion. An hour and a half later the threatened storm burst over Lord's and the ground

became flooded.

19 July: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3362.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 July, page 5)

Excellent bowling and fielding by the Gloucestershire Eleven were the features of yesterday's play in the return match at Moreton-in-the-Marsh. Lord Harris captained the Kent team, from which there were several notable absentees. The county of the Graces was represented by its almost full strength, and they had much the better of the day's play.

On a slow wicket, Kent, who went in first, offered only a feeble resistance to the bowling of Roberts and Woof, who dismissed them in an hour and a half for 28. Five of the side failed altogether.

When Gloucestershire went in Dr W G Grace scored 16 out of 28 before he returned the ball. Afterwards Mr Pullen showed excellent form, and eventually the home side had an advantage on the first innings of 96 runs. Kent again did badly in the second venture.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 July, page 13)

Little progress could be made with this match at Moreton-in-the-Marsh yesterday, owing to the bad weather.

Day 3 (report from Monday 23 July, page 10)

Kent were unable to avert a single-innings defeat at Moreton-in-the-Marsh on Saturday. The drawing of stumps the previous day had left them with five wickets in hand and 73 runs behind. Woof and Roberts, who had bowled so effectively in the first innings, again dismissed the batsmen rapidly, and an hour and a half sufficed to bring the match to a conclusion.

In the double innings Woof secured 11 wickets for 45 runs, while Roberts took the other nine for 27. The score subjoined will show that Gloucestershire won by an innings and 44 runs.

19 July: LANCASHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3363.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 July, page 5)

Several thousand spectators witnessed most extraordinary cricket in the match between these counties at Manchester yesterday. During the day 25 wickets fell for an average of a fraction over five runs each. On the treacherous wicket Lancashire went in first. Their innings lasted only two and a half hours. Sugg played very well for his 27, while Briggs rapidly scored 16.

Against the last-named's bowling Yorkshire fared much worse than their rivals. In an hour and a half they were all dismissed for 51 runs. On two occasions Briggs took two wickets with consecutive balls. Lancashire had a lead of 28 runs on the first innings, but at their second attempt they lost five wickets for 13 runs in 40 minutes.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 July, page 13)

When stumps were drawn at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, on Thursday, Yorkshire had the advantage as the home side with five wickets down in their second innings were only 48 runs ahead. Rain yesterday morning rendered the wicket easy. Yorkshire won by two wickets. About three hours were occupied in scoring the runs.

19 July: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3364.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 July, page 5)

Lord's Ground had not recently recovered from the recent inclement weather to permit a start in the match yesterday between Marylebone and Notts before luncheon. The club is strongly represented, while the county are trying several new men, Mr J S Robinson, of Harrow and Cambridge University, Mr Beves and two professionals, Kirk and Briggs, the latter being a brother of the Lancastrian.

A start was made shortly after 3 o'clock, when Notts, who had won the toss, opened their innings with Gunn and Mr Robinson. The wicket was very slow. Phillips and Martin had charge of the bowling. When ten runs had been registered Mr Robinson was bowled. Mr Daft arrived. Rain soon stopped the game, and subsequently it was decided to postpone further play until this morning.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 July, page 13)

More rain yesterday morning prevented any play in this match at Lord's. The wicket was terribly soft, and after waiting until late in the afternoon it was determined to put off further play. At the end of Thursday Notts had scored 15 for one wicket.

Day 3 (report from Monday 23 July, page 10)

Such little headway had been made with the match at Lord's between Marylebone and Nottinghamshire on the first two days that there was scarcely any prospect of a definite issue being arrived at on Saturday. The turf was still very heavy.

At half-past 11 Nottinghamshire, who had lost a wicket for 15 runs, went on with their batting. Mr Daft, Gunn, Barnes and Mr Beves all reached double figures, and when the fourth wicket fell the score stood at 70. The remaining six added only 38, and the innings closed for 108.

When the Club went in the cricket was very quiet. In an hour and a half the score reached 29 for two wickets. Scotton returned the ball at 66. He was sixth out, having been in two hours and a half for his 25. The last four wickets added 20. Nottinghamshire, who were ahead on the first innings, went in a second time, and eventually the game was left drawn . . .

19 July: MIDDLESEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3365.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 July, page 5)

With most of their best cricketers available Middlesex was represented by their strongest eleven at Kennington Oval yesterday in the return match against Surrey. Bowley and Henderson were away from the home side, and their places were filled by Mr Trouncer, who figured well in some of the Cambridge trial matches, and Jones. Mr Shuter had recovered from his lameness and was once more able to captain the team.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 July, page 13)

So saturated was the turf at the Oval yesterday by the heavy rain of the morning that no progress could be made with the match between these counties. The scores at the close of Thursday were: - Middlesex, 161; Surrey, 12 for one wicket.

Play will begin to-day at 11 o'clock.

Day 3 (report from Monday 23 July, page 10)

With two or three exceptions the bowlers were masters of the situation at the Oval on Saturday, when the match between the metropolitan counties ended. The wicket had been cut up somewhat on the first day, and the rain of Friday left it in a most treacherous state for the concluded. Middlesex had finished an innings for 161 and Surrey had lost one wicket for 12 when play ceased on Thursday evening.

On Saturday Mr Shuter and Maurice Read, the not outs, were opposed by Burton and Mr Ford. The latter soon gave way to Mr Robertson, but the figures reached 32 before Mr Shuter was bowled. An addition of 21 saw the dismissal of Mr Walter and Maurice Read and Wood. Mr Key, who had gone in third wicket down, then received much aid from Mr Bowden and Lohmann. The 100 was reached at a quarter to 1. Subsequently Mr Trouncer and Mr Key advanced the score from 105 to 156. Mr Key was then caught at long-off for a capital innings of 51, in which were a five, four fours, four threes and four twos. Seven runs later the innings closed for 163, at 2 o'clock. Burton was creditable with all the wickets – a feat rarely accomplished in important matches.

After luncheon the Middlesex eleven began their second venture. They could make little headway against the attacks of Lohmann, who took full advantage of the opportunities afforded him by the treacherous turf. Mr Hadow played well; but in an hour and three-quarters the innings was finished for 53. Half the wickets realized 44, and the second half only added nine.

Surrey required 52 for victory. After losing seven wickets for 46, the runs were obtained, and an exciting day's cricket ended in Surrey winning the match by three wickets.

19 July: SUSSEX v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3366.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 July, page 5)

Sussex had much the best of a somewhat surprising day's cricket at Brighton yesterday. They won the toss, and after some hesitation went in on a slow wicket. Three of their batsmen fell to Mr Turner in his first four overs; Quaife was bowled, and Mr Gresson and J Hide played on. Three for eight.

Messrs Thomas and Newham by good cricket took the score to 37, when the former was caught at slip. Humphreys was taken at extra mid-off at the same total, and Mr Smith was bowled at 48. Then Messrs Newham and Brann put on 30 runs before the latter was stumped. The remainder of the innings, which lasted two hours and five minutes, was chiefly noticeable for the excellence of Mr Newham's batting. In his very fine innings were four fours and four twos. The last three wickets were obtained in 15 minutes after luncheon, the venture closing at ten minutes past 3.

The Australians' innings opened in similar style to that of Sussex, as three wickets were down for nine runs. Mr Bannerman played on, Mr M'Donnell was caught at slip and Mr Bonnor was bowled. Messrs Trott and Blackham then got together. At 36 Humphreys took the ball from J Hide, who had up to this time shared the attack with his brother. The lob bowler met with great success; Mr Blackham was out to him at 40 and Mr Jarvis at 56. At 57 Mr Turner was caught at the wicket and Mr Edwards at point. Seven down. The last three batsmen were dismissed from Humphreys's bowling: Mr Ferris was caught at point at 64, Mr Trott stumped at 65 for a capital 24, and Mr Worrall caught at short leg. The innings was over at 4.40, having lasted an hour and a quarter.

In Sussex's second innings Mr Gresson and Quaife by fine cricket scored 49 for the first wicket. The former was then caught at point. Quaife and Mr Newham were both dismissed at 66, and stumps were drawn . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 July, page 13)

The prospect of an improved wicket at Brighton was spoiled by the rain which fell yesterday between the hours of 7 and 10 in the morning. With four wickets to fall, the Australians want 112 to win.

Day 3 (report from Monday 23 July, page 10)

In all the tours of Australian cricketers in this country a match with Sussex has been included. The first, played in 1878, ended in defeat, some consolation for which was experienced two years later, when, had there been time, the county would have in all probability set the colonials an exceedingly difficult task. A most crushing defeat was the portion of Sussex in 1882, in which year Mr Murdoch made his memorable score of 286, and the Australian total for one innings reached 643.

In the contest of 1884 it may, with all fairness, be said that time alone robbed the county of success, for though in the endeavour to win they forced the game and so lost several wickets, five still remained at the call of time and only 33 runs were required. Both Mr G N Wyatt and H Phillips

played an innings of over 100 in this match. The 1886 match was also drawn, in whose favour it is not easy to say. Messrs G Brann and F M Lucas scored respectively 104 and 93, and together put on 161 runs for the eighth Sussex wicket. Thus of the five matches played previous to this year two have been won by Australians and the others drawn.

The sixth match, which took place at Brighton on the concluding three days of last week, ended in the success of Sussex, who thus in a manner avenged the defeat suffered by England earlier in the week. Though dismissed for less than 100 runs in their first innings, the county always held an advantage, and on Friday afternoon appeared to have the match well within their grasp. Only four Australian wickets remained and 112 runs were required to win. The condition of the ground was decidedly against this number being obtained, though the wicket was not so difficult as it had been earlier in the day.

With the game in this position rain fell, and could the play have been proceeded with later in the day, it is not improbable that a wet wicket and greasy ball might have discounted the chance of Sussex. As it was play had to be postponed until Saturday at 12 o'clock. Messrs Trott (not out 19) and Turner (not out six), two of the most determined batsman of the team, then found scoring off Mr Smith and Humphreys a tolerably easy matter, and in a quarter of an hour 26 runs were added, making the total 61. Six runs later A Hide bowled in place of Humphreys, and from his first ball Mr Trott was easily caught at cover-point. The separation of the two batsmen, who had put on 43 runs for the seventh wicket, was a matter of much satisfaction to the partisans of Sussex, who had begun to feel anxious.

After this the end was not long delayed. Mr Lyons failed signally, being disposed of at 68. Mr Turner, who deserves the greatest praise for a most admirable attempt to save his side, was got rid of at 84, and an easy catch, given by Mr Edwards, to mid-on, brought the match to a conclusion at ten minutes to 1. Sussex thus secured victory by 58 runs.

Their success, richly deserved, was due chiefly to the efforts of A Hide and Humphreys. The former took eight wickets for 44 runs and made five catches. Humphreys, whose lobbs on two previous occasions against Australian cricketers proved wonderfully successful, secured in all nine wickets for 40 runs.

19 July: LEICESTERSHIRE v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128269.html)

Days 1 and 2 – no reports or scorecards

Day 3 (report from Monday 23 July, page 10)

Three days were devoted to this match, which ended at Leicester on Saturday in a decisive victory for the home eleven. At the end of an innings each Leicestershire were 73 runs to the good. Warwickshire, after losing six wickets very quickly, managed to avert the innings defeat and set their opponents 12 runs to win. Eventually Leicestershire secured the victory by seven wickets.

19 July: SOMERSET v STAFFORDSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128515.html)

Day 1 (no report or scorecard from Saturday 21 July, page 13)

Day 2 (report from Monday 23 July, page 10)

Mr Woods, the Cambridge University fast bowler, played with great success for Somerset in this match on Friday and Saturday at Taunton. In each innings of Staffordshire he took six wickets at an average cost of a fraction under five runs each. In the second venture of Somerset Shaw also did well with the ball, securing six wickets for 40 runs. The score subjoined will show that Somerset won by 120 runs.

23 July: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PAST AND PRESENT v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3367.html)

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

Since the first match was played between the 1882 Australian Eleven and the Past and Present of Cambridge, keen interest has always been aroused in matches under the above title. Yesterday's was the fourth contest of the kind and, as in 1886, the game was set for decision at Leyton.

The Cambridge side included many of our leading players and, except for Mr Steel's absence, was thoroughly representative of light blue cricket. It is a long time since the Leyton ground presented so animated an appearance as yesterday, when during the afternoon there were quite 5,000 persons on the ground.

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

The interesting state in which the match stood on Monday evening had the effect of attracting many thousand people to the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday. Excellent innings were played by Messrs Bonnor and Bannerman, but each batsman was missed. The fielding did not reach the high standard which might have been expected from a Cambridge side.

With the wicket easier than on the opening day, the visitors made the most of their opportunities. The drawing of stumps on Monday had left Cambridge with a total of 137, while the Australians had lost two wickets for 74. Yesterday the Australians closed their innings for 319, and Cambridge entered on their second innings with arrears of 182.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 26 July, page 11)

The bad weather yesterday morning prevented the match between these teams from being concluded at Leyton. There was every prospect of an interesting day's cricket, and much disappointment was felt by the spectators when at 2 o'clock the weather became so bad that it was decided to abandon the contest. The scores were: - Cambridge, 137 and 22 for no wicket; the Australians, 319.

Of course the Australians had a great advantage, but as the wicket was in very good condition previous to the rain their victory was not assured . . .

23 July: KENT v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3368.html)

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

The picturesque ground of the Beckenham Cricket Club was the scene yesterday of the opening of the return match between Kent and Surrey. Both counties played a strong team.

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

At Beckenham yesterday Surrey were the winners by 89 runs; their bowlers won the match.

23 July: YORKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3369.html)

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

In matches between these great northern teams the meagre scoring is proverbial. Yet scarcely a record exists that would compare with the small totals made in the game yesterday. Several thousand people were present at the Bramall-lane, Sheffield, to witness the play.

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

At Sheffield yesterday Yorkshire won this match by ten wickets.

23 July: LANCASHIRE v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128254.html)

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

An interesting day's cricket was witnessed on the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday, on the opening of the match between these counties.

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

Last evening at Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, Watson and Briggs dismissed the Derbyshire eleven for 17 runs in the second innings. Lancashire won by an innings and 78 runs.

26 July: KENT v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3370.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 July, page 8)

Kent was represented at Maidstone yesterday by a strong team under the captaincy of Mr W H Patterson. Additional interest was lent to the contest by the fact that the first match between the counties earlier in the season at Trent Bridge was won by Kent. Notts gave a further trial to Mr Beves and Briggs.

The visitors went in first, but lost Scotton at 16. Mr Dixon and Gunn advanced the ff to 50 before the former was caught at extra mid-off, while Gunn and Barnes added 66 for the third wicket. Barnes was out sixth, clean bowled at 141. His excellent innings of 56 included five fours, a three and nine twos. Afterwards Flowers and Attewell played well, but the others were quickly dismissed.

Kent soon lost Mr Rashleigh, but Mr W H Patterson played in his well-known excellent style, and with the assistance of Mr Atkins and G Hearne greatly improved matters.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 July, page 13)

Mote-park, Maidstone, was the scene yesterday of a very even day's cricket in the match between Kent and Notts. Overnight the visitors had completed an innings for 193 and two Kent wickets were down for 71.

Yesterday morning Mr Patterson had the misfortune to play on when a single had been added. George Hearne and Mr Fox, however, made a determined stand. The latter was missed by Richardson at slip from the first ball sent him, and this error on the part of the Notts fieldsman proved most expensive for his side. George Hearne was caught and bowled at 116, and afterwards Mr Fox saw the rest of the side dismissed. At 157 Flowers, by disposing of A Hearne, Mr Milles and Martin with successive balls, performed the "hat trick." Mr Fox's 49 included six fours, two threes and five twos. It was 20 minutes to 1 when the Kent innings closed for 159.

With a majority of 34 Notts went in a second time. Except Mr Dixon few of the side batted with much success, and by half-past 4 the last wicket was captured for 91. Kent, who went in to get 126 for victory, had lost three wickets when at 6 o'clock rain stopped play . . .

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

At Maidstone on Saturday the weather was wet, and the turf in Mote Park became so saturated that cricket was impracticable before half-past 3. Kent, who wanted 94 to win and had seven wickets to fall, then went on with their batting. Mr Patterson and Mr Marchant were opposed by Attewell and Flowers.

The bowling was very true, and Mr Marchant, after making four, was well caught at long-on. Subsequently the Kent batsmen played with great care, and ultimately the game ended in a draw, the home side requiring 44 to win with four wickets in hand. Mr Patterson was in three hours and a

quarter for 28, and G G Hearne two hours and ten minutes for 16.

26 July: LANCASHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3371.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 July, page 8)

It was only at the beginning of the present week that extraordinary bowling was recorded by Briggs, the Lancashire professional. In the match between the home team and Gloucestershire at Liverpool, yesterday, he accomplished another remarkable feat. This time he took six Gloucestershire wickets for 13 runs, while the other three – one batsman was run out – were claimed by Barlow. The latter effected the dismissal of both the Drs Grace.

Thirty-three was the total of the Gloucestershire innings, and Mr Pullen's 12 was the only double-figure score. The wicket, of course, was very treacherous; but even with the turf so bad one can scarcely imagine the Gloucestershire team out for 33. Lancashire went in a second time 75 to the good.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 July, page 13)

Again bowlers had matters nearly all their own way at Aigburth, Liverpool, yesterday. On the opening day Lancashire scored 108 and 89 for six wickets, while Gloucestershire made only 33 at the first attempt. When the game was resumed Woof took the last four wickets for two runs, and Gloucestershire were left with 173 to obtain for victory.

Both the Graces were out for 29, and four more wickets were captured for 14 runs. Eventually the innings closed for 56, leaving the victory with Lancashire by 116 runs. During the match 40 wickets fell for an average of a fraction over seven runs each.

26 July: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3372.html)

Thursday 26 July, page 11

This match, originally fixed for the Oval, will be played to-day at Brighton.

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 July, page 8)

A thoroughly enjoyable day's cricket was witnessed on the Hove Ground, at Brighton, yesterday, when the first of the matches between Sussex and Surrey began. Fine weather was experienced and several thousand people visited Hove.

Sussex had first innings. Quaife batted brilliantly, but Mr Gresson, Mr Newham and J Hide were all out for 54. Then Mr J M Cotterill, the famous amateur batsman, who has not played for his county for 11 years, joined Quaife. At 65 the professional had the misfortune to be run out. Mr Cotterill continued to hit in fine style until he returned the ball. His 52 included two fours, five threes and nine twos. The last Sussex wicket fell for 163.

When the visitors went in the Surrey captain was caught at wicket at 12. The two Reads, however, both hit vigorously and added 86 for the second wicket. Mr Read's 40 included four fours and eight twos, while Maurice, who was bowled at 120, hit six fours and ten twos.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 July, page 13)

Until the rain stopped the game last evening at Brighton, the cricket witnessed again proved of an interesting character. When stumps were drawn on Thursday Surrey, having got rid of their opponents for 163, had scored 152 for six wickets. Yesterday Abel, the not-out, showed excellent form until he was brilliantly caught at point. Eventually the Surrey innings closed for 203 at half-past 12.

Sussex who were 40 behind went in a second time. Mr F H Gresson, a left-handed batsman, played a capital innings of 33, and was not out until the figures had reached 76. He was in an hour and three-quarters. J Hide hit well, but subsequently wickets fell rapidly, and only Humphreys offered any great resistance to the bowling of Lohmann. Rain stopped play . . .

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

The Surrey eleven continue their victorious career. On Saturday they gained a brilliant victory over Sussex at the Hove Ground, Brighton, and so far this season they have won all their important county engagements. When stumps were drawn on Friday evening there was a possibility of a good finish, as Sussex, with one wicket to fall, were 102 runs ahead.

The rain, however, made the turf very easy, and none of the bowlers could break the ball to any extent. In a quarter of an hour on Saturday the Sussex venture closed for 157, leaving Surrey with 118 to obtain for victory.

The task was begun by Abel and Mr Shuter to the bowling of the brothers Hide. Runs were obtained rapidly, and though seven different bowlers were put on the task was accomplished by a quarter past 4. Mr Shuter hit 12 fours, a three and six twos, and Abel four fours, a three and eight twos.

26 July: YORKSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3373.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 July, page 8)

Already the Australians have played two matches with the Yorkshire team, one of which was a victory while the other was drawn. Yesterday they appeared at Huddersfield to begin the third of the matches. The rain, however, had so affected the turf at Fartown that a postponement until this morning became necessary. Mr S M J Woods will play for the Australians . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 July, page 13)

There was some remarkable bowling at Huddersfield yesterday in the third match of the tour between the Colonials and Yorkshire. The previous day's rain had left the wicket treacherous, and after the first two hours the bowlers had matters almost entirely in their own hands. Mr M'Donnell during the Yorkshire innings injured himself so badly in an endeavour to catch Ulyett that he was unable to bat.

Yorkshire won the toss, and Hall and Ulyett opened their batting at 20 minutes to 12 o'clock. Messrs Turner and Ferris had charge of the bowling. Runs were scored rapidly. Ulyett, however, gave two chances in the long field. Although Messrs Woods and Worrall each went on to bowl the score reached 53 before Hall was caught at the wicket. After Ulyett had been again missed he was caught at deep square-leg at 64. His 48 included three fours, three threes and four twos. Mr Hirst was bowled at 85, and after an interval through rain Lee was out in the same way at 92. Subsequently Messrs Turner and Ferris bowled with great effect and the last six wickets were captured for 15 runs. Time, 3.25, total 107.

The Australians lost Messrs Bannerman and Bonnor for a single, while at three Mr Woods was bowled. Indeed Mr Trott was the only batsman who offered any determined resistance, and in an hour and ten minutes the innings closed for 48. Yorkshire thus had an advantage of 59.

Their second venture, however, was as bad as the Australians' had been. Four wickets were down for as many runs, and five were lost for 10. Afterwards matters improved slightly.

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

Of the three days set apart for the third match between the colonial eleven and Yorkshire only one proved fit for cricket. That was Friday, during which nearly three innings were got through, the drawing of stumps leaving the game in a very even condition. Yorkshire had scored 107 and 49 for nine wickets, and the Australians 48. Thus the county were 108 runs to the good with a wicket to fall.

The turf of course was in a most treacherous state, and it was difficult to say in whose favour the game stood. So heavy was the rain storm which visited Huddersfield on Saturday morning that at half-past 12 it was decided to abandon the match, the ground being totally unfit for play.

30 July: SURREY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3374.html)

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

In every quarter the return match between the colonial eleven and Surrey has aroused keen interest, and not unreasonably. The county themselves were especially eager to avenge the severe defeat experienced in the first contest, while the records of both sides led cricketers to expect a good match. However, the heavy rain of Saturday night saturated the Oval turf, and the wicket early yesterday morning gave evidence that the result would be a “bowler’s match.”

Surrey is represented by its strongest side, but Mr Blackham was too unwell to play for the Australians, who, however, have again the assistance of Mr S M J Woods, the Cambridge University fast bowler. Several thousand people were present at the Oval to witness the cricket before luncheon. Up to this time the weather was very bright, but subsequently rain fell in torrents.

Surrey won the toss, and at a quarter past 12 Mr Shuter and Abel opened their batting. Mr Turner led off their attack with a maiden from the pavilion end. Mr Ferris, who was the other bowler, with his third ball dismissed the Surrey captain, who played forward and tamely returned it. This start was rather discouraging.

Mr Bowden went in first wicket down. Abel drove Mr Turner for two, while a cut by the amateur realized the same number. Three maidens followed, and then Mr Bowden sent the ball almost into the hands of Mr Boyle at short mid-on. Abel made another drive from Mr Turner for two, while Mr Bowden elicited loud applause by a splendid hit to the off boundary from Mr Ferris. Directly afterwards, in Mr Turner’s next over, Abel cut the ball straight into the hands of Mr Trott at point, but the latter failed to make the catch. This mistake might have proved much more expensive than it did. As it was Abel increased his score by 10 after his escape. With the figures at 15 a good ball Freeman Mr Turner sent Mr Bowden’s middle stump right out of the ground, and with the third ball of the over he dismissed Maurice Read in precisely the same way. Three good wickets were now down for 15, and the outlook from a Surrey point of view was anything but hopeful.

Mr Walter Read made his way to the wicket amid loud cheers. Each batsman scored a single, which items were the only points in the next few overs. The play proved very quiet. For some time the best hit was a drive for two by Mr Read, who subsequently obtained a lucky couple on the leg side. Again the scoring became tedious. Abel, however, subsequently enlivened matters by hitting Mr Ferris to square leg for three and driving the other bowler for two. These hits raised the figures to 32, when Abel, in attempting to punish a “long hop” from Mr Turner, was out to a brilliant catch at mid-on by Mr Bannerman. The last-named humped up and took the ball with his right hand. Four for 32 was the remit of an hour’s play.

Mr Key joined Mr Read, who scored a couple of twos from Mr Ferris. In the following over of Mr Turner’s Mr Key played the ball to leg for three and Mr Read obtained four by two drives. Mr Key continued to hit vigorously; he drove Mr Ferris for three, so that at 54 the Australian bowling underwent the first change, Mr Woods taking the ball. This alteration quickly had the effect desired, for from the second delivery of the second over Mr Read retired clean bowled. Five for 56. Since the fourth wicket fell 24 runs had been added. Wood came in. Each batsman scored three by a cut, and at 68 Mr Turner gave way to Mr Ferris. In his second over Mr Key hit him to square-leg for four and three, and at the interval the score was 78.

The game was continued after the usual three-quarters of an hour had elapsed. Messrs Turner and Woods were the bowlers. After scoring two Wood was taken low down at slip. Six for 80. Lohmann joined Mr Key. The figures travelled quickly, and a dozen runs, including a drive for three by Lohmann, were added, when at 3 o'clock a very heavy shower drove the players into the pavilion. Later on, when the umpires were examining the wicket, rain again fell heavily, and it was decided to abandon play for the day.

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

Under the circumstances the total of 92 for six wickets obtained by Surrey on the first day was a distinct advantage to the county. Yesterday at the Oval they followed up this with brilliant bowling and fielding, and should no more rain fall there is every prospect of their success to-day. Cricket yesterday morning appeared improbable, and even at the start the turf was almost unfit for play. By the time the Australians went in the wicket was badly cut up, and the Surrey attack was most effective.

Throughout the game was watched with interest by fully 5,000 people. Surrey, who had scored 92 for six wickets, resumed their batting at 1.25 and completed their innings at ten minutes past 3 for 135. The Australians went in at 3.35 and scored 52 in their first innings. At 5.25 they began their second venture . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 2 August, page 11)

The turf was altogether unfit for play at the Oval yesterday after the heavy night's rain, and the match had to be abandoned. Surrey, of course, had a great advantage with the score as follows: - Surrey 135; Australians 52 and 33 for two wickets. The decision was arrived at early, enabling the county team to leave in good time for Manchester, where to-day they play Lancashire.

30 July: YORKSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3375.html)

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

Gloucestershire was represented by a very strong side in this match at Halifax yesterday. The wicket was slow, but the visitors, winning the toss, decided to go in first.

Against the bowling of Peel and Wade the Western team fared badly. Both the Graces were out for 16, and six wickets were down for 30. Messrs Page and Troup, however, made a determined stand and added 40 while they were together. The venture closed for an addition of 19.

Yorkshire opened well, but after Ulyett's dismissal matters for a time went badly with them. Peel and Wainwright, however, rendered their side great assistance. At the end of an innings each Gloucestershire were 32 runs behind.

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

This match ended at Halifax yesterday. Gloucestershire were beaten by three wickets.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 30 June, page 15)

During the time that play was practicable at Kennington Oval on Thursday Hampshire completed an innings for 103, and Surrey obtained 14 runs without loss of wicket. The score subjoined will show that Surrey won by an innings and 89 runs.

2 August: ENGLAND XI v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3376.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 3 August, page 11)

At Hastings yesterday, the weather prevented a start being made in the match between the Australians and an eleven of England. Play will begin this morning at half-past 11.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 4 August, page 5)

The pleasant ground of the Hastings Cricket Club was visited by a very large company yesterday, when the Australians began a match with an eleven of players from Sussex, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Hampshire and Hertfordshire, under the captaincy of Mr Herbert Pigg.

A start was made at a quarter to 12, when Mr M'Donnell, having won the toss, opened the Australian batting with Mr Bannerman. The early bowling was intrusted to Peel and Pougher. The last wicket fell for 168.

Hall and Phillips began the home batting to the attacks of Messrs Turner and Ferris. The innings produced 53 runs, and against a majority of 115 the English followed on at a quarter to 6. Wright and Mr Sutthery started to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Ferris. With the figures at 6 Wright was stumped, and then stumps were drawn.

Day 3 (report from Monday 6 August, page 12)

After the uneven play on Friday much of the interest in the match subsided as the state of the score on that night pointed to an easy victory for the Colonials. Yet the cricket ground at Hastings on Saturday was well attended when the game concluded. The Englishmen the previous evening had followed on and lost one wicket (Wright's) for six runs.

Mr Sutthery, not out, two, and Hall continued the batting in Saturday shortly after noon, and were opposed by Messrs Turner and Ferris. The score rose at an extremely slow rate. Indeed, after the latter had bowled 12 maiden overs he gave way to Mr Worrall, and at the end of half an hour nine runs only had been added. Mr Turner now clean bowled Mr Sutthery, who had not reached double figures. Mr Phillips arrived, but with three added Hall was bowled. Three for 18.

Mr Mordaunt for a second time failed altogether, but Messrs H Pigg and Phillips made a stand, though Messrs Worrall and Ferris changed again. Subsequently Mr Worrall resumed, and at 45 he bowled Mr Pigg. Peel made four and was then dismissed by Mr Turner, while Wainwright, who had played so well in the previous innings, quickly obstructed his wicket, and at the interval the score was 54 for seven.

On resuming Mr Turner dismissed Mr C Pigg at 68, and Mr Phillips then saw Mr Dudney and Pougher bowled, and took out his bat for an excellent innings of 24. The result was a victory for the Colonials by an innings and 27 runs. Mr Turner had a most remarkable analysis for the double innings, having taken 17 wickets at an average cost of less than three runs each.

2 August: KENT v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3377.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 3 August, page 11)

Although the start was delayed at Tonbridge yesterday, in consequence of the heavy state of the ground, considerable headway was made with the match between these counties. Both were represented by strong teams, and at present the game is in an even state.

Sussex won the toss and went in first. The wicket of course gave the bowlers much assistance, and in an hour and a half Martin and Wright dismissed the visitors for 51. Kent started badly, but after losing three wickets for four runs, their prospects improved . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 4 August, page 5)

This match ended at Tonbridge yesterday in a victory for Kent by a wicket. Five of the Kentish wickets were captured in a most surprising manner by Tate, who clean bowled G Hearne, Mr Marchant, Mr Fox, Wright and A Hearne without a single run being made from him.

2 August: LANCASHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3378.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 3 August, page 11)

It was generally known that many of Surrey's supporters were very anxious with regard to their match at Manchester. They had every reason, too, for their doubts, as the prowess of such bowlers as Watson, Briggs and Barlow on bad wickets has of late been manifest. Thus the decisive victory of Surrey yesterday will cause no little surprise among cricketers of all classes, for a match of importance to be begun and finished in a day is an event of rare occurrence.

In comparatively recent years there have been several instances at Lord's – viz., MCC v Surrey (1872), MCC v Australia (1878) and two years ago MCC v Lancashire and the Whit-Monday North v South match. Another occasion was in 1884 at Birmingham, when Mr Murdoch's third Australian team beat an England Eleven.

The weather yesterday was fine but the wicket proved treacherous. This fact may be almost gleaned by a glance at the score. Lohmann, the Surrey professional, accomplished a remarkable bowling performance. He at one time took four wickets in five balls, and his 13 wickets in the double innings cost a fraction under four runs each. Surrey have now won all the important county matches in which they have engaged.

2 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3379.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 3 August, page 11)

Gloucestershire placed a strong eleven in the field against the home county at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, and on a rather slow wicket they had the better of the day's play.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 4 August, page 5)

Play in the match between these counties was continued yesterday on the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham. Gloucestershire won by six wickets.

6 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3380.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 August, page 9)

Brilliant batting was witnessed on the College Ground at Clifton yesterday during the three hours and a half that play in this match was practicable. Gloucestershire went in first, and the opening day by no means encouraging for the home county, as Dr E M Grace was quickly dismissed. One for 3.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Pullen, however, added 53 for the second wicket, while Painter stayed with the latter until 112. Mr Radcliffe and Mr Brain put on 51 while they were together, Mr Brain and Mr Townsend 67, and Mr Brain and Mr Page 45. Mr Pullen was in an hour and three-quarters for his 70, which consisted of six fours, six threes, nine twos and singles. He did not give a chance. Mr Brain scored his 79 in two hours; among his hits were eight fours, four threes and seven twos.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 August, page 10)

The opening day was occupied by Gloucestershire scoring 279 for seven wickets. Yesterday 49 were added by the last three batsmen, and the innings closed for 328. Sussex played very feebly in their first venture, but in the second innings a brilliant stand was made by Mr Newham and J Hide.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 9 August, page 12)

In spite of the capital uphill game played by Sussex, they were unable to save the return match with Gloucestershire at Clifton. The wicket was in excellent condition, and the batting for a third time in the contest was of a very brilliant character. The drawing of stumps on Tuesday had left the visitors a run behind and six wickets to fall in their second innings.

Yesterday the game was resumed shortly after 11. Mr Newham, not out, with 98, was dismissed at 237 for a splendid innings of 118. He was in three hours and three-quarters, and his chief hits were nine fours, four threes and 19 twos. The rest of the innings was remarkable for the fine hitting of Mr Brann, who scored 73 out of 107 by nine fours, three threes and seven twos and singles.

Gloucestershire had 147 to obtain for victory, and this number cost them three wickets. Drs W G and E M Grace scored 51 for the first wicket in a little over half an hour. Afterwards Mr Pullen again hit brilliantly, and Gloucestershire won by seven wickets.

6 August: KENT v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3381.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 August, page 9)

At Canterbury yesterday, in the match between Kent and the Australians, the latter won the toss and went in on an excellent wicket. Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman were placed in opposition to Walter Wright and A Hearne.

A single came from a couple of overs, when Mr Bannerman was bowled. Mr Trott appeared, and within a little time two cuts by the new comer caused the ten to be reached. Mr M'Donnell gave promise of a good innings, and among other hits he made a very clean cut to the boundary. Mr Trott then cut A Hearne and Wright for three each. He next sent the ball to square-leg for four, and the Australian captain drove A Hearne straight into the tent. It had taken 35 minutes to register 40 runs, when Mr M'Donnell was bowled.

Mr Bonnor then came in and cut A Hearne for four, and added a couple prior to being caught at wicket; three for 49. A hearty cheer greeted the re-appearance of Mr Jones in the cricket field after his long illness. Mr Trott quickly afterwards played on and made room for Mr Turner. An alteration was tried at 68, Martin relieving Hearne. Each batsman hit him to the off for four, while in an over from Wright Mr Edwards scored a four in the slips and a drive (all run out) to the off for five. In the next over he was clearly out leg-before.

After luncheon Mr Blackham came in with Mr Jones; the bowling was entrusted to A Hearne and Wright. Mr Blackham hit a full-pitched ball to the on from Hearne for four, which caused the hundred to be reached. He then had the misfortune to play the ball on. The hundred was thus completed for seven wickets. Four runs later Mr Lyons was bowled, and Mr Worrall was served in the same manner at 113. An addition of three saw Mr Ferris clean bowled, the innings closing at 3.26.

Mr Rashleigh and F Hearne began the Kent innings at ten minutes to 4, the Australian bowling being entrusted to Messrs Turner and Ferris. Eleven runs had been scored when Mr Rashleigh played on. His place was taken by Mr Patterson. Runs came very slowly and only 17 had been scored when Mr Turner clean bowled Hearne. Mr Fox then kept Mr Patterson company till 33 had been reached, when the latter was caught at point. A few overs later Mr Ferris sent back both G Hearne and Mr Wilson, the fifth wicket falling at 39.

Then Mr Marchant joined Mr Fox, and by brilliant hitting quickly raised the score. Mr Worrall and Mr Trott took up the bowling, but it was not till 76 that Mr Fox was dismissed for an admirable innings of 21. At 89 A Hearne was bowled, but Mr Kemp helped to bring up the hundred by 25 minutes to 6. Then Messrs Turner and Ferris resumed, and the former with his first ball bowled Mr Marchant, who had played a brilliant innings. He quickly captured the two remaining wickets, and by a quarter to 6 the innings was over for 107.

At 6 o'clock the Australians, with nine runs in hand, began their second innings in a very bad light, and when stumps were drawn had scored six without losing a wicket.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 August, page 10)

The match was continued on the St Lawrence Ground yesterday. The fine weather and the interesting state of the score on Monday evening brought a large increase of visitors on to the ground.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 9 August, page 12)

The chances of Kent saving the match yesterday were remote, and little interest remained in the first fixture of the great festival. The brilliant weather continued, and after the big match was over many remained to watch the scratch teams play in the afternoon. The last time the Australians appeared at Canterbury they were beaten.

When the game ceased on Tuesday evening Kent with only three wickets to fall required 97 to win. Mr Rashleigh, the not out, was joined yesterday morning by Mr Kemp. Messrs Turner and Ferris were the bowlers. Mr Kemp was dismissed first ball. Mr Rashleigh and Martin gave little trouble and Kent were beaten by 81 runs.

6 August: SURREY v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3382.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 August, page 9)

For many years past the fixture between Surrey and Nottinghamshire has attracted large crowds of spectators to Kennington Oval on the August Bank holiday. Last season the interest aroused was much more keen in consequence of the close struggle between the counties for what has been termed the championship. This year, however, Surrey are far in advance of their various rivals. Yet very great interest attached to the match which began yesterday, and fully 15,000 people were present. Both counties were strongly represented.

Surrey won the toss, and on a wicket a little slow through the recent rain, began their innings at 12 o'clock. Play ceased at quarter past 6 . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 August, page 10)

This match was continued at the Oval yesterday. Fully 10,000 people were present during the afternoon. Brilliant weather was experienced and the wicket also improved.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 9 August, page 12)

Yesterday, at the Oval, the game rapidly came to an end, and Surrey won by 78 runs. The poor total of the visitors was due to nothing but weak defence, as the wicket was in about the same condition as it had been previously.

6 August: YORKSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3383.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 August, page 9)

About 9,000 people witnessed the opening day's cricket in this return match at Sheffield yesterday. Winning the toss, Yorkshire went in on a somewhat slow wicket.

Ulyett, after being missed at extra mid-off, showed excellent defence. He was in an hour and a half for his 40, and was fourth to leave – caught in the long field at 67. Lord Hawke and Peel both hit freely; the former fell to a catch in the long field at 91, and at 103 Peel was caught at wicket. It was a quarter to 4 when the innings closed for 113.

Middlesex started badly. At five Mr Walker was bowled, eight runs later Mr Webbe was taken at third man, and Lord George Scott was bowled at 17. Then followed free hitting by Messrs O'Brien, Hadow and Vernon . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 August, page 10)

The return match between these counties at Sheffield produced a very stout contest. On the opening day Yorkshire scored 113 and Middlesex 61 for four wickets. Yesterday the remaining batsmen were got rid of for an addition of 37. Thus the home side went in a second time with an advantage of 15.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 9 August, page 12)

Yesterday at Bramall-lane, Sheffield, Middlesex for the second time this season defeated Yorkshire. The previous evening had left the visitors with seven wickets in hand and 54 to get to win. Messrs O'Brien and Hadow, the not outs, added 25 more before, at 109, the latter was bowled. Mr Vernon and Mr O'Brien then hit off the runs and Middlesex won by six wickets. Mr O'Brien's excellent innings included nine fours, seven threes and six twos.

9 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3384.html)

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

Yesterday, at Clifton College, the Australians began their match with Gloucestershire. With the exception of a heavy shower about luncheon time the weather kept fine, and there was a large gathering of spectators.

Day 2 (scored but no report from Saturday 11 August, page 10)

Day 3 (report from Monday 13 August, page 12)

Gloucestershire have been playing with great success this season. It is a long time since their cricket eleven have shown such good form, and their recent performances remind one of the county's great days, when the three brothers Grace were members of the team. After the first two days' play in this match the defeat of the Australians was expected, although on the Clifton ground it had been anticipated that they would make a much better fight than they did. When play ceased on Friday they had an innings to play with 384 runs to obtain for victory.

There had been some rain during the early morning of Saturday, and when the game was resumed the turf was rather slippery. At half-past 11 Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman opened the second innings to the bowling of Woof and Roberts. Mr M'Donnell hit brilliantly, and at 23 Mr Peake displaced Woof, but after the 50 had gone up Dr W G Grace went on himself. The latter change proved effective, as at 55, in his second over, the Gloucestershire captain got Mr M'Donnell caught at cover-point.

Only a single was added when Mr Bannerman was run out, while at 63 Mr Bonnor fell to a catch in the slips. Mr Jones's stay was brief, as at 69 he was caught by the wicket-keeper, while ten runs later Mr Blackham returned the ball. Five for 79. Messrs Trott and Edwards then raised the score steadily. Mr Townsend went on to bowl, but the 100 was reached at half-past 1. Subsequently the innings was rapidly finished off. Mr Trott left at 114. Messrs Lyons and Worrall were both caught at point, while Mr Ferris was taken at long-off and Mr Boyle bowled. Total 126. Thus Gloucestershire won by 257 runs.

The county had never before beaten an Australian eleven. They were defeated by the colonials in 1878, 1880, 1882, 1884 and 1886, and three other matches were drawn.

9 August: KENT v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3385.html)

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

About 9,000 spectators watched the opening day's play in the second match of the week – Kent v Lancashire. It was the return game, and the fact that Kent had won the first match gave it additional interest. Lord Harris was able to take his place in the home side, but Lancashire suffered through the absence of Mr A G Steel and Robinson.

The cricket itself proved of a fluctuating character, but eventually Kent were able to claim a substantial advantage.

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

With the brilliant victory of Kent over Lancashire the great festival at Canterbury was brought to a close yesterday. This is their second success this season against Lancashire.

9 August: SURREY v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3386.html)

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

The return match between Surrey and Sussex began at the Oval yesterday, with a much improved turf. Surrey went in first, and quickly obtained a complete mastery over the attack. Mr John Shuter and Abel in two hours and a half scored 101 for the first wicket, the latter then being caught at slip. His 59 included five fours, four threes and four twos.

As is so often the case after a long stand, Mr Shuter was out at the same total for a brilliant innings of 95. He had an escape at the hands of extra slip, and also played on without breaking the wicket before he had scored 14 runs. Apart from these errors, however, his innings was altogether free from fault. He made through fours. Lohmann scored 24 in masterly style and was then stumped, making third wicket down for 206.

Messrs Key and W W Read were next partners. Without a mistake these gentlemen in two hours and ten minutes put together 197 runs. Mr Key then played on. His principal items were ten fours, six threes and seven twos. Mr W W Read continued to hit finely, and has seldom played better. In spite of the rapid scoring the fielding was excellent.

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

The Surrey team established a new record at Kennington Oval yesterday in the way of scoring. Already this season it had been beaten by the eleven in the match against Oxford University, but their figures on the present occasion were 698. This is 48 runs better than their total against Oxford in June last. Their innings occupied within a few minutes of nine hours, so that the average rate of scored was about 77 an hour.

Day 3 (report from Monday 13 August, page 12)

It was generally anticipated that there would be some good cricket shown by the Sussex eleven on Saturday at the Oval, but with two exceptions such was not the case, and much disappointment was felt at the collapse of the second innings. The drawing of stumps on Friday evening had left the visitors in an almost hopeless condition. They had followed on and lost one wicket for 31, being 553 runs behind.

Messrs Smith and Brann, the not outs, resumed the batting shortly after 11 o'clock on Saturday morning. Bowley and Beaumont were the bowlers. With five runs added, Mr Brann cut the ball into the hands of point. Mr Newham joined his captain and the pair made an excellent stand. Mr Smith hit brilliantly, and 45 had been added in half an hour before Lohmann, who had gone on at 68, clean bowled him. He had made five fours, two threes and seven twos. Three for 80.

Then followed a series of misfortunes for the visitors. Quaife was caught at wicket from the first ball sent him, and at 82 a very doubtful return catch dismissed Mr Cotterill, who appeared clearly to play the ball hard on to the ground. Without addition, J Hide was caught and bowled, and three runs later Mr Gresson, having been missed at slip, was clean bowled. Mr Newham left at 98, and a

single later Phillips fell to a catch at mid-on and Tate to point. The last seven wickets had only produced 19 runs. Surrey thus won by an innings and 485 runs.

9 August: DERBYSHIRE v MIDDLESEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128542.html)

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

The Middlesex eleven appeared for the first time at Derby yesterday to play their match with the home county. On a good wicket Derbyshire played remarkably well. Middlesex had a few minutes' batting . . .

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

In spite of the capital score made by Derbyshire in their first innings, they had all the worst of yesterday's play at Derby. The Middlesex eleven were batting nearly all day and obtained the excellent score of 328.

Day 3 (report from Monday 13 August, page 12)

Derbyshire have not been seen to such advantage for some time as they were in the match with Middlesex which concluded on Saturday at Derby. At the end of the second day each side had completed an innings, and Derbyshire, having gone in again, had lost five wickets for 17 runs.

The home batting was continued on Saturday, when Earl was bowled for an addition of eight. Six for 25. Cropper and Davidson then advanced the figures to 41, at which total Cropper was bowled. With only third wicket to fall and 42 still required to avert a single innings defeat, there seemed every probability of an easy victory for Middlesex. Chatterton and Davidson, however, batted steadily and well. Before Chatterton was bowled, just prior to luncheon, 95 runs had been added for the eighth wicket. Chatterton's excellent 54 included one five, six fours, four threes and four twos. The last two wickets added 52 runs, and Davidson at the close of the innings was not out 61. Among his hits were four fours, three threes and ten twos.

Middlesex went in to get 106 for victory. Lord George Scott, Mr Webbe and Mr Ford were got rid of for 31 runs, but then followed brilliant hitting by Messrs O'Brien and Hadow, who obtained the necessary runs and won Middlesex the match by seven wickets. Mr O'Brien's chief contributions were six fours, three threes and three twos. Mr Hadow hit eight fours.

10 August: CHESHIRE v YORKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128544.html)

Day 1 (no report or scored from Saturday 11 August, page 10)

Day 2 (report from Monday 13 August, page 12)

Friday and Saturday were devoted to this county match at Stockport, which resulted in a victory for Yorkshire by an innings and 40 runs. In spite of some excellent bowling by Mr Bretherton, who took seven wickets for 52 runs, Yorkshire on the first innings claimed an advantage of 91 runs. On Saturday Wade and Parratt bowled with great success and got Cheshire out a second time for 51.

10 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v SOMERSETSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128518.html)

Day 1 (no report or scored from Saturday 11 August, page 10)

Day 2 (report from Monday 13 August, page 12)

In spite of the excellent batting of the Marylebone team in this match at Lord's, Somersetshire on Saturday were victorious by five wickets. The county had been left to get 166 to win, and after losing four wickets for 28, Messrs Challen and Sainsbury added 119 for the fifth.

13 August: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3387.html)

Monday 13 August, page 12

The second of the representative matches begins to-day at Kennington Oval. The English eleven will be selected from the following twelve: - Dr W G Grace, Mr J Shuter, Mr W W Read, Lohmann, Briggs, Barnes, Gunn, Abel, Wood, Sugg, Ulyett and Peel. Mr A G Steel was unable to accept the invitation to play.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 14 August, page 6)

It was a severe blow to English cricket when the Australians gained so decisive a victory over the whole country at Lord's a few weeks since, and some time elapsed before cricketers generally recovered from the disaster. The occasion has been eagerly anticipated when the teams would meet a second time on, it was hoped, a dry wicket – a much truer test of a team's abilities than the bad wickets which have existed of late. Thus the fine weather that set in last week proved welcome, and in the excellent wicket of yesterday on the Oval the Englishmen had all they desired, and at present the prospect of their losing the match is indeed remote. On the other hand, there is every probability of their retrieving their reputations in the cricket field.

Dr W G Grace captains the English side, in which there are five Surrey men (Mr Read, Mr Shuter, Abel, Lohmann and Wood), two Yorkshiremen (Ulyett and Peel), two Lancastrians (Briggs and Sugg), and Barnes, from Nottinghamshire. Much adverse criticism was heard of several of the selections, but under the circumstances the team, in Mr A G Steel's absence, could scarcely have been altered for the better. Indeed, so far as the game has gone the players have thoroughly justified their selection.

In four instances the team differs from the representative side at Lord's, Mr Shuter, Sugg, Ulyett and Wood succeeding Messrs Steel, O'Brien, Gunn and Sherwin. Of those taking part in this encounter Mr Shuter, Wood and Sugg are the only players who have not previously represented England. Messrs Jones, Boyle and Lyons are absent from the Australian side, in which Mr Woods, the Cambridge fast bowler, again figures.

The Oval yesterday presented a scene which is only witnessed when representative matches are in progress. Since the great contests of 1880 and 1882 the Oval itself has undergone great improvement, and spectators are now able to get a better view of the game than they were in those days. Yesterday the terraces all round the ground were packed, as was every position from which a glimpse of the play could be caught. It was an ideal cricket crowd. The way in which the spectators discriminated between good and bad play was noticeable. They were very impartial and not grudging in their applause, yet they seemed well pleased with the excellent position secured by the Englishmen at the close.

Going in first on a good wicket, the colonials, it was thought, would make a creditable score, and as the batting collapsed it caused quite a sensation. In batting, bowling and fielding the Englishmen were seen to great advantage. Lohmann's two marvellous catches at slip were among the features of the day's cricket. The Australian defence was feeble in the extreme, and apart from Mr Edwards's 26 was altogether unworthy of their reputation. Briggs's bowling was remarkable; the

whole of his wickets were clean bowled. England started badly enough, but towards the end of the day there was very fine cricket by Abel and Barnes. The weather proved fine, but the high wind made matters a little unpleasant, while the shadows which frequently passed over the ground were a disadvantage to the batsmen. Altogether the company numbered quite 17,000.

The appearance of the English team in the field shortly after 12 o'clock showed that the colonials had won the toss. Already there were man thousands of people on the ground, and they cheered heartily as the players took up their positions. Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman opened the Australian batting, while Lohmann led off the attack from the pavilion end. His field was disposed as follows: - Dr Grace, mid-off; Mr Read, point; Mr Shuter, short mid-on; Wood, wicket; Sugg, long field straight; Barnes, extra slip; Abel, slip; Briggs, cover-point; Peel, extra mid-off; and Ulyett, third man. Nothing came from the first over.

Peel had charge of the bowling at the other end, with his field as follows: - Dr Grace, mid-off; Mr Shuter, cover-point; Mr W W Read, point; Wood, wicket; Sugg, third man; Barnes, short mid-on; Abel, long-off; Briggs, extra mid-off; Lohmann, slip; Ulyett, deep on the off side. With his third ball Peate got the Australian captain brilliantly caught at slip by Lohmann, who dropped on his knee and made the catch wide with his left hand. The great Surrey bowler was loudly applauded for a most remarkable feat. It was rather a disheartening start for the colonials.

Mr Trott and Mr Bannerman, however, batted steadily. Half a dozen singles were followed by a three in the slips by Mr Bannerman. Mr Trott cut each bowler for three, while a leg hit by the other batsman produced a like number. Mr Trott next hit Peel finely to the leg boundary, bringing up 20 after as many minutes' play. Briggs displaced Peel at 22, and the first change in the bowling proved a decided success. With the third ball of his second over he bowled Mr Trott's off stump out of the ground, and with the second ball of his third he hit Mr Bonnor's middle stump. Two and three for 22.

Mr Edwards arrived and the play became very quiet. The English fielding was particularly clean and neither batsman could get the ball away. Lohmann sent down 14 consecutive maidens, while Briggs up to this point had bowled 14 overs (12 maidens) for two runs and two wickets. Mr Bannerman scored the single which broke Lohmann's long sequence of maidens. Mr Edwards next drove Lohmann for three, and later on he cut the same bowler very finely for four. Up to this time the last dozen runs had taken up to three-quarters of an hour to obtain. Meanwhile Briggs had sent down 11 consecutive maidens. Mr Edwards next cut Briggs for four, and at 40 the bowling underwent a further change, Barnes relieving Lohmann. From his third ball there was another brilliant catch at extra slip by Lohmann, who secured the ball almost on the ground with his right hand. Again he was most heartily cheered. It was Mr Bannerman who had to leave; he had been in an hour and a half for 13. Four for 40.

Mr Jarvis came in. Mr Edwards scored a single from Briggs, and then cut the other bowler for three. A lofty cut by Mr Jarvis realized four, and after a single had been added in six overs Abel missed Mr Edwards at slip. He had then made 18. Directly afterwards Mr Jarvis's leg stump was struck, and half the wickets were down for 49.

Mr Woods's stay was brief. He had been there only a very few minutes when Mr Edwards called him for a sharp run. Peel fielded the ball on the off side and cleverly threw the wicket down. Six for 49. When Mr Turner joined Mr Edwards the latter by a single brought up 50 at five minutes to 2. Mr Turner was never at home with Briggs's bowling, and without addition his middle stump was knocked out of the ground. With seven wickets down for 50, the adjournment for luncheon was

taken.

At ten minutes to 3 the game was resumed. Mr Blackham accompanied Mr Edwards to the wicket. Briggs and Barnes were again the bowlers. In the former's second over Mr Blackham ran out to drive and was clean bowled. Eight wickets were now lost for 50. Mr Worrall, who followed in, obtained a couple of twos from Briggs, while Mr Edwards drove Barnes to the off for four. The total steadily travelled to 63, when a splendidly-judged catch at mid-off sent back Mr Worrall. Nine for 63.

Mr Ferris, the last man, quickly cut Barnes for three, and after a single from each end he hit Briggs to the square-leg boundary. A couple by each batsman advanced the figures to 76. Lohmann now resumed bowling in lieu of Barnes. The alteration proved effective as, with four added, he clean bowled Mr Edwards, who had played an excellent innings of 26, for which he was in two hours. It was within a few minutes of half-past 3 when the last wicket fell for 80.

At ten minutes to 4 Dr Grace and Mr Shuter opened the home defence. Mr Turner bowled from the pavilion end with his field as follows: - Mr Jarvis, mid-on; Mr Bonnor, long-on; Mr M'Donnell, slip; Mr Edwards, extra slip; Mr Ferris, third man; Mr Trott, point; Mr Worrall, cover-point; Mr Bannerman, extra mid-off; Mr Woods, mid-off; Mr Blackham, wicket. Dr Grace took the first over, but nothing came of it.

Mr Ferris was the other bowler, his field being Mr Trott, point; Mr Jarvis, mid-on; Mr Bonnor, slip; Mr Woods, mid-off; Mr Bannerman, extra mid-off; Mr Worrall, cover-point; Mr M'Donnell, long-on; Mr Edwards, long-off; Mr Turner, third man; Mr Blackham, wicket. With only two runs scored Dr Grace was easily caught at slip from the last ball of Mr Turner's second over. Mr Shuter had Ulyett for a partner. The former cut Mr Ferris for three, but then the professional was well caught at wicket. Thus two good English batsmen were out and only six runs recorded.

Mr Read joined Mr Shuter. The former obtained three by a cut, while Mr Shuter by a similar hit sent the ball to the boundary. Mr Read next hit Mr Ferris to leg for four, but having obtained seven, he gave that bowler a return chance. Misfielding by Mr Ferris gave the Surrey captain four runs and then in the course of the next few overs the total reached 42 after three-quarters of an hour's play. At this total Mr Trott relieved Mr Ferris. Mr Shuter cut him for three, but afterwards played on. He was loudly cheered for his excellent innings. Three for 46.

Abel, who followed in, secured two by a drive and four by a square-leg hit, bringing up 50 at 20 minutes to 4. Three runs later Mr Read's off stump was bowled out of the ground and Barnes joined Abel. The latter cut and hit Mr Trott square for four each, and at the end of an hour the score stood at 60. Barnes but the slow bowler twice in one over for four each, and at 73 Mr Ferris resumed. Runs, however, were added steadily, and shortly after 5 o'clock the Australian total was passed amid loud cheers. Still the figures travelled rapidly. Each batsman drove Mr Turner for four, causing that bowler to give way to Mr Woods at 92. Barnes drove the latter for a couple, while his companion obtained three from the other end. Barnes with a drive for two then sent up the 100 and again the cheers were loud. Time, 5.20. Directly afterwards he cut Mr Ferris for four and the other bowler for three. Abel scored six by drives from Mr Woods, while Barnes hit Mr Ferris to leg for four.

The fast rate of scoring caused the Australians again to alter their attack, Mr Turner going on at 122. The scoring slackened for a time, but Abel soon enlivened matters by hitting Mr Turner twice to the square-leg boundary, and Barnes cut the same bowler for three. Mr Ferris gave way to Mr Worrall

at 141. Barnes drove his first ball to the on boundary, and then by hitting him to leg for three he completed his 50 and sent up the 150 at five minutes to 6. Mr Woods was now given a further trial with the ball, but by 6 o'clock the batsmen had added exactly 100 runs. Barnes obtained a couple of fours in the slips, after which Abel increased his score to 50. Mr Turner went on at the gasometer end at 165, and with his first ball he got Barnes caught at slip. The partnership had realized 112 runs in an hour and 20 minutes. Barnes's brilliant 62 consisted of eight fours, six twos and singles. It is almost needless to say he was loudly applauded on retiring. Five for 165.

Sugg joined Abel, who secured four through the slips from Mr Woods. Mr Ferris was tried at the pavilion end, and the change should have proved effective, as Sugg was missed by the Australian captain at slip when he had made a single. Both batsmen then played with great care, and evidently intended, if possible, to keep up their wickets till the drawing of stumps. In this they were successful.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 15 August, page 6)

England gained a most brilliant victory over the Australians at the Oval yesterday. The result must prove most gratifying to all who follow our national game with any interest. After the tame performance a few weeks ago at Lord's English cricketers began to think that the season would pass away without an opportunity of retrieving their ascendancy in a representative match on a good wicket. But the return of the fine weather quickly altered matters, and on Monday the splendid condition of the turf raised the hopes of the home side, who seemed confident as to the result.

No one was prepared, however, for the collapse of the Australian batting. Indeed, the advantage they had obtained in winning the toss was balanced by their bad cricket. Throughout yesterday the Englishmen played a winning game with great spirit. They excelled at all points. On the other hand, the colonials seemed altogether out of form, or else they have not become used to the fast wickets.

One feature of yesterday's play individually eclipsed everything else, and that was the brilliant innings of Lohmann, the Surrey professional. He figured tenth on the "order," and took out his bat for one of the finest displays of batting that could be witnessed. His 62 were obtained in a little over 50 minutes, yet not once did he misjudge the ball. Earlier in the day Abel, who, in conjunction with Barnes, made the big stand on the previous evening, had the misfortune to be thrown out. On the English side one great disappointment was Sugg's batting. Early he gave two distinct chances, and in his 31 there was not more than three good hits. One looks in a match of this importance for a very different class of cricket from that shown by the Lancashire professional, especially when a man is played for his batting. It is curious to note that the five Surrey players in the team scored three-fifths of the runs made from the bat, an achievement of which the supporters of the county will be justly proud.

The Australians fielded much better than they had done the previous evening. When the last two Englishmen were in an incident of great rarity occurred. Law 14 of the game states that "The bowler may not change ends more than twice in the same innings, nor bowl more than two overs in succession." With the figures at 289, Mr Ferris, who had previously crossed over and gone back to the end from which he started, was again put on at the opposite wicket. After he had bowled one ball Dr Grace from the pavilion directed the umpires' attention to this infringement, and for a minute they seemed puzzled how to proceed. After a short discussion the bowler was not allowed to resume the over and went back to the other end. The ball itself was lost to the match.

A somewhat similar case happened in the Rugby v Marlborough match at Lord's two years ago. On that occasion, however, the player had completed an over before the infringement was detected, and the umpires ruled him unable to bowl further at either end. In the first part of the rule there is room for amendment; the prevention of a bowler sending down more than two consecutive overs might be secured without much difficulty.

To return to the play. The Australians in their second innings had against them a majority of 237. These arrears were only 34 less than in the match in 1880, when, after following on, the Australians put their opponents in to get 56 to win. It was on that occasion that Mr Murdoch took out his bat for 152 and Dr Grace scored 152. Only Mr M'Donnell yesterday showed anything like good form for the visitors, and the game was all over by 5 o'clock. The Englishmen's fielding scarcely came up to that of Monday.

In the absence of the strong wind the weather proved much more pleasant. As was shown by the turnstiles, the attendance was even larger than on the opening day, for there were quite 18,000 people on the ground. From start to finish the spectators watched the game with the keenest interest.

The game was resumed shortly after 11.30. Sugg and Abel, the not-outs, with 5 and 65, were opposed by Messrs Turner and Ferris. England had scored 185 for five wickets. The bowlers were at the end at which they originally started. Abel hit the first ball of the morning to the on for four, but directly afterwards Sugg was badly missed at slip by Mr Bonnor. This was Sugg's second escape in the slips, and even now he had only scored five runs. In Mr Turner's next over each batsman scored a single, and then Abel lost his wicket through venturesomeness; he started for a run from a hit of his partner's, the ball was well fielded by Mr Trott, running from point, who threw the wicket down. It was exceedingly bad fortune for the Surrey professional, who seemed thoroughly set. He had been in two hours, and his faultless 70 included nine fours, three threes and six twos. Six for 191.

Peel filled the vacancy. In the course of the next few overs Sugg hit Mr Ferris twice to leg for four. The 200 was reached at 10 minutes to 12 amid loud applause. Sugg next scored four by a bad hit in the slips, while his companion cut Mr Turner crisply to the boundary. With the total at 216, Mr Woods displaced Mr Ferris. From his second ball Sugg made so far his best hit – a fine cut to the boundary. Mr Woods bowled very well and the play became quiet. Five maiden overs were sent down, after which Peel played Mr Woods to square-leg for two. Sugg again grew busy. He hit Mr Woods to square-leg for four, and obtained a like number by a bad hit in the slips, the ball passing just over Mr Worrall's head. Brilliant fielding by Mr Edwards at third man saved Australia four runs. In another over from Mr Woods, three hits by peel produced five runs, after which the scoring was again quiet. Three maidens were followed by the bowling of Sugg's leg stump out of the ground. Fifty runs had been added since the fall of the previous wicket, but there were few good hits in Sugg's 31. Seven for 241.

Briggs's stay was brief and unproductive, as in the next over from Mr Woods his middle stump was bowled down by a "yorker." Eight for 242. Lohmann, who followed in, drove Mr Woods twice to the off-boundary, while Peel obtained four by a lucky stroke in the slips. The 250 was recorded at 25 minutes to 1. Runs were added steadily, but at 259 Peel, who had shown very good form and had been in about an hour, had his middle stump hit out of the ground. Nine for 259.

Wood joined Lohmann, who was batting in brilliant style. The latter drove Mr Turner for two and

hit him to leg for three, while directly afterwards he elicited loud applause by driving a ball from Mr Turner into the pavilion. Among other hits he cut and drove Mr Turner to the boundary in one over. Wood next made a cut for four, which increased the total to 289. Mr Ferris was now deputed to bowl at the pavilion end. This was an infringement of law 14, which forbids a bowler crossing over more than twice. He sent down one ball before Dr Grace called the umpires' attention to the mistake. Some curiosity was evinced as to what the officials would do in the matter. Eventually Mr Turner continued and Mr Ferris went on at his old end.

On resuming, Lohmann cut and drove Mr Turner to the boundary, causing that bowler to give way to Mr Woods at 297. Lohmann, however, cut him for three, and the cheering was loud as the 300 appeared at a quarter past 1. Still Lohmann continued his vigorous hitting. He drove and cut Mr Ferris for three fours in one over, which runs completed his 50. A cut for three by Wood and a drive for two by Lohmann were recorded in the next over, but then the end came, a good catch at extra mid-off dismissing Wood. Time 1.25; total 317. Lohmann took out his bat for 62, in which there was not the slightest error. He had made his runs in less than 55 minutes, and his hits were ten fours, three threes, six twos and a single.

With a majority of 237 against them the Australians went in a second time, at a quarter to 2. Messrs Bannerman and M'Donnell again opened the batting to the bowling of Lohmann and Briggs (football end). A single came from the first two overs, but the Australian captain then, by a splendid forward cut, scored four. After several singles he drove Lohmann to the off boundary, the ball being badly misfielded by Peel. A couple of twos on the leg side to Mr M'Donnell and good fielding by Briggs and Abel were the other noticeable points prior to luncheon, when the score was 18.

Nearly an hour elapsed before the Australians went on with their innings. Two new bowlers were put on, Barnes and Peel. In four overs Mr M'Donnell scored 11 runs, including a cut for four, but during this time he gave Lohmann a difficult chance in the slips. Thirty runs were recorded at ten minutes past 3. Mr M'Donnell now drove Peel for four, but directly afterwards he cut the ball on to his pads and into the wicket. One down.

Mr Trott, who came in, obtained four to leg from Peel, but in that bowler's next over he was cleverly stumped from a ball which broke considerably. Two for 38. Mr Bonnor came in. He soon hit Barnes to leg for three, but the next six overs only produced five runs. Mr Bonnor was then easily caught at wicket, making three wickets down for 43. Mr Edwards gave very little trouble, for after Mr Bannerman had made two by a drive, he was well caught low down at point. Four for 45. The last seven runs had taken 20 minutes to obtain.

Mr Ferris aided Mr Bannerman. The former secured four by a lofty hit in the slips, and then with a single he brought up 50 at 3.35. Mr Ferris made two drives from Peel, which realized five. Mr Bannerman was content to play a very patient game, and after being in an hour and ten minutes for four runs he was loudly applauded for scoring a single from Barnes. Mr Ferris cut Barnes for three, but then the former was thrown out by Wood from short-leg. It was for a hit of his partner's which he had started. Wood was almost at square leg when he threw him out. Five for 62. A single later Mr Bannerman played on; he had exhibited his usual caution, as may be gleaned from the fact that he was in an hour and twenty minutes for his five runs.

With six wickets down for 62, Messrs Woods and Turner became partners. Another wicket should have quickly fallen, as Mr Read missed Mr Woods at point. Three runs later a smart piece of fielding by Briggs offered an opportunity for Peel to run out Mr Turner, but he failed to take the ball

properly. Mr Turner next had a life at the hands of the wicket-keeper. Afterwards Mr Woods cut Barnes for four, and the 70 was reached at ten minutes past 4. Two runs later Mr Woods was out to a very good catch low down at slip. Seven for 72.

Mr Turner's next partner was Mr Jarvis. The former cut Peel for four and scored a single off the other bowler, which was almost a chance to Barnes at mid-on. Mr Turner cut Peel for four, while Mr Jarvis obtained three by a drive and four by a "pull." The ball, however, then struck his middle stump out of the ground, and eight wickets were down for 89. Mr Blackham joined Mr Turner. A single came from two overs, and at half-past 4 the score stood at 90. Two singles and a leg hit by Mr Blackham were next added. At 98, however, Mr Blackham was caught in the slips; the ball went to Abel, who failed to hold it, but Lohmann, who was fielding at extra slip, made the catch. Nine for 98.

Mr Worrall, the last man, appeared. After a maiden over Mr Turner, by an off-drive for two, completed the 100, but the following ball clean bowled him and ended the match, England winning by an innings and 137 runs. At the finish several thousand people assembled in front of the pavilion and cheered lustily for many of the players.

13 August: SUSSEX v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3388.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 14 August, page 6)

Considering the excellent state of the wicket the scoring at Brighton yesterday was remarkably small. The home side was powerfully represented, but Lancashire lacked the services of Mr A G Steel, Briggs and Sugg.

Lancashire went in first. Their opening was disastrous, [five] wickets falling for 11 runs. Two more were down for an addition of 17. Mr Crosfield and Yates then put on 36, but in spite of this nine batsmen were out for 55 runs. Then followed a determined stand by Yates and Pilling, who increased the score by 56 for the last wicket, which fell at ten minutes past 3. Yates hit seven fours and two threes.

When Sussex went in Quaife played very well, yet five wickets were lost for 64. Humphreys and Mr Smith, however, put on 43 while they were together. The weather was fine and a good company visited the Hove Ground.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 15 August, page 6)

Lancashire severely felt the absence of Briggs and Sugg in this match at Brighton. Yesterday they were decisively beaten by Sussex, who had not previously won a big county match this season. On the previous day Lancashire had scored 111 and Sussex 150 for nine wickets.

Yesterday the home county completed their venture for 152. Lancashire, who were 41 behind, lost both Mr Hornby and Barlow for 28 runs in their second innings. Messrs Eccles and Steel played steadily and 29 were added before the latter was bowled. Mr Eccles obstructed his wicket at 80. Neither Mr Kemble nor Baker gave much trouble, but Messrs Crosfield and Taylor showed good form. The latter's 40 included five fours, a three and four twos. Soon after 3 the innings closed for 171, leaving Sussex 131 to obtain for victory.

Quaife and Mr Gresson scored 34 for the first wicket, the amateur being then leg-before. Afterwards Mr Newham and Quaife hit off the other 97 in an hour and a quarter, and won the match by nine wickets. Mr Newham made four fours, two threes and seven twos, and Quaife three fours, four threes and six twos. The professional gave a chance in the slips when he had obtained 23.

13 August: DERBYSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128261.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 14 August, page 6)

Yesterday these counties began their return match on the County Ground at Derby. Yorkshire went in first, but except Hall, Preston and Pride, the team offered little resistance to the bowling of Hulme. The first six wickets fell for 49, but subsequently Hall and Pride made a capital stand, and it was not until after the interval that the last batsman left at 115. Hall hit with more freedom than usual, Hulme bowled very effectively and took his first five wickets for seven runs.

Derbyshire started badly, but matters improved through some good batting by Chatterton . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 15 August, page 6)

At length the Derbyshire eleven has won a match with a county in the front rank. Following so closely on their capital performance against Middlesex, the eleven seems to have at last shown that they possess plenty of cricket ability. Their success yesterday aroused the enthusiasm which has been missing so long from the regular company at the cricket ground at Derby. Yesterday the home side completed their first innings for 129, which left them 14 runs ahead.

On going in a second time, Yorkshire lost Hall in Hulme's first over. Then Preston and Lee made a good stand and added 62. Preston hit three fours, six threes and four twos. Subsequently the batting was very feeble, and Derbyshire were left with 83 to obtain for victory. Sugg and Cropper were out for 10, but Mr Wright and Davidson raised the figures to 45, and then Chatterton and Mr Wright won the match for Derbyshire by seven wickets.

13 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v WILTSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128258.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 14 August, page 6)

Extraordinary scoring was witnessed in this match at Lord's yesterday. Marylebone went in first, and at the end of the day had only lost two wickets for 514 runs. Mr Russell hit five fours, three threes and seven twos; Mr Ford, eight fours, six threes and nine twos; and Mr Pontifex five fours, three threes and three twos.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 15 August, page 6)

The remarkable scoring was continued at Lord's yesterday, and the total of the MCC innings reached 735. This is 40 more than the previous highest made at headquarters three years ago in the match MCC v Norfolk. In Mr Sainsbury's 180 were 18 fours, ten threes and 11 twos; in Flowers's 117 there were nine fours, seven threes and six twos; and in Mr Brougham's 117 were 19 fours, a three and ten twos; and the longest partnerships were 164 for the second-wicket and 157 for the third.

When Wiltshire went in, Mr Ford and Flowers shared the bowling throughout. The game was drawn . . .

15 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v CHESHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128543.html)

Day 1 (report from Thursday 16 August, page 5)

A thoroughly enjoyable day's cricket was witnessed in this match at Lord's yesterday. The county went in first and the scoring proved very even. Mr Littlewood played well and secured the highest total . . .

Marylebone kept possession of the wickets for the rest of the day. Messrs Roe and Ford carried off the batting honours and between them contributed 174 runs.

Day 2 (report from Friday 17 August, page 5)

After an excellent match Marylebone beat Cheshire at Lord's yesterday by four wickets. At the end of an innings each the MCC had an advantage of 133. Cheshire, however, played very well in their second venture and put their opponents in to get 97 to win. Mr Littlewood showed excellent form for the visitors. The home team found the task set them by no means easy, and six wickets fell before it was accomplished . . .

16 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3389.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 August, page 5)

As a batsman's ground that at Clifton has few equals. Proof of this was furnished by the matches at the College last week, when Gloucestershire secured two brilliant victories. In past seasons Dr W G Grace has played many a fine innings there, and that of yesterday will compare with any of them. The great batsman, at a time when the game was going all against his side, was seen to advantage, and it was almost entirely due to him that the western county made such a good score as 248.

Winning the toss, Dr Grace opened the home batting with his brother. In the course of a few overs he saw Dr E M Grace, Mr Pullen and Mr Champain out for 11 runs, while Painter left at 26. Mr Radcliffe then joined his captain, who batted most brilliantly. He completed his 50 at half-past 1. Altogether 107 were added in an hour and three-quarters for the fifth wicket. Mr Radcliffe was then caught and bowled.

With Mr Brain in another great stand was made. Dr Grace two and a half hours from the start increased his figures to 102, while the total stood at 147. It was not until 221 that the Gloucestershire captain was at length caught at cover-point. He was in three and a half hours, and his hits included 16 fours, 11 threes and eight twos. After his dismissal the innings was finished off in half an hour, the last four wickets adding only 27 runs. Yorkshire went in . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 August, page 6)

By the time that stumps were drawn last evening at Clifton the Gloucestershire executive must have sincerely regretted their leaving Roberts out of the eleven. This bowler has been very useful to them more than once this season, and yesterday his services would have indeed proved welcome. As it was Yorkshire were in all day, and at the finish had still a wicket to fall. On the previous evening Gloucestershire had scored 248 and Yorkshire had lost two wickets for 35 runs.

Shortly after 11 o'clock the game was resumed. Runs were scored rapidly and the 100 was completed an hour and ten minutes from the start. In spite of many variations in the attack the figures reached 149, or 130 for the partnership, before a catch at short-leg got rid of Wormald. The latter's vigorous 80 included seven fours, seven threes and nine twos. Preston came next, but at 181 he was finely caught by Mr Page on the square-leg boundary. Four down. With Wainwright in the second hundred was reached at a quarter to 2. Fifteen runs later the new batsman was bowled, and at 219 the Yorkshire captain – Lord Hawke – fared the same fate. Six wickets were now down.

After luncheon Parratt was bowled at 241, but when Wade arrived the home bowling was completely mastered. The 300 was telegraphed at 10 minutes past 4. Altogether 116 runs were added in an hour and a half before Wade was caught by Mr Townsend running from mid-off. Among his hits were five fours, three threes and two twos. Eight for 357. Gloucestershire's troubles were not yet over, as Moorhouse and Hall kept together the rest of the day. The latter played with great care, but scored rather more freely than usual. In consequence of a family bereavement Peel will take no further part in the game.

Day 3 (report from Monday 20 August, page 7)

Dr W G Grace is the only cricketer who, in comparatively modern times, has accomplished the feat of scoring two centuries in one match. For a third time, on Saturday he achieved this performance on the College Ground at Clifton. The two previous occasions were – in 1868 at Canterbury, when he made 130 and 102 not out for the South v North of the Thames, and last year at Clifton for Gloucestershire v Kent; his scores were then 101 and 103 not out. In the match under notice his figures were 148 and 153.

In all three instances the bowling against him was of a high-class character. Twenty years ago he scored his two hundreds against bowlers of such repute as Grundy, Wootton and Howitt, while last year and this year the Kent and Yorkshire attack was also very strong. The Gloucestershire captain's recent scores show that he still possesses the prowess which has made his name famous wherever cricket is played. Over a thousand runs were scored in the match, so that the bowlers had anything but a successful time. Dr Grace's performance eclipsed everything else. Hall's defence presented a striking contrast. He carried his bat through the Yorkshire innings for 129, which were obtained at an average of 18 an hour.

When the game was continued on Saturday Gloucestershire had scored 248 and Yorkshire 427 for the loss of eight wickets. Hall and Moorhouse added 34 runs before the latter was taken at long-off. The wicket had realized in an hour and a half 104 runs. Moorhouse hit ten fours, six threes and ten twos, and Hall 11 fours, nine threes and thirteen twos.

Gloucestershire, who were 231 behind, went in a second time at 12 o'clock. The brothers Grace opened the innings. Dr W G hit in brilliant style, but at 43 his brother fell to cover-point. While Mr Radcliffe was in the 80 went up, after an hour's play. Nine runs later the last-named was bowled, and Mr Champain at 105 fared the same fate. The hundred had been reached at 1.20. Painter aided Dr Grace, and the 50 runs were put on in 35 minutes. The professional was caught in the slips at 169, and Mr Pullen came in. Dr Grace completed his 100 at a quarter past 3, and 20 minutes later the second hundred appeared.

The fast rate of scoring continued until, at 253, Dr Grace was secured at slip and retired amid loud applause. He was nearly caught at wicket at 12, but otherwise his cricket was faultless. He was in a little over three hours, and his hits comprised 22 fours, five threes and 12 twos. The last five wickets added 63, and the innings closed for 316. With 194 to obtain to win Yorkshire went in a second time, and the game was finally drawn.

16 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3390.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 August, page 5)

Cricketers had become so accustomed to the slow play at Trent-bridge that yesterday's heavy scoring will create no little surprise. If they have not been so successful in county matches as in some previous seasons, the Nottinghamshire eleven can claim a very substantial victory over the Colonials and, judging from yesterday's results, there is every prospect of their repeating the win.

Since the Canterbury Week, the Australians have had a most adverse time. Defeats by Gloucestershire and England were followed yesterday by their getting in the unenviable position of scarcely the slightest prospect of winning and every probability of losing. The performance of the Notts team compensates in some degree for the recent failures of the county. To Barnes and Gunn belongs the chief credit of the scoring, although several other members of the side were very successful. By the time that stumps were drawn the visitors' bowling was thoroughly worn out. Messrs Bonnor, Jones and Boyle are absent from the Australian side.

Notts won the toss, and on a good wicket sent in Mr Dixon and Scotton to the bowling of Messrs Woods and Turner. The start was not hopeful. In half an hour the figures reached 14, and then Scotton was bowled off his pads. With Gunn in, however, the character of the play quickly altered. Though the Colonials' attack underwent several changes both batsmen hit with freedom. Among other contributions was a drive for six (run out) by Mr Dixon. Rapidly the score travelled to 75, when the amateur through some misunderstanding lost his wicket. He hit one six, four fours, three threes and two twos. Two down.

Barnes joined Gunn. If anything the rate of run-getting increased, and by a quarter to 2 the three figures appeared, amid loud cheers. Subsequently the score still rose at a rapid rate. Two hundred was telegraphed after three hours and a quarter's play. When he had made 71 Barnes gave a sharp chance to Mr M'Donnell at slip; but shortly afterwards the third wicket fell, Gunn, at 225, being clean bowled by a bailer from Mr Lyons. He had been in three hours and his 91 included five fours, nine threes and ten twos. During the partnership 150 runs had been added.

Barnes did not long survive his late colleague, and with his total at 90 he returned the ball. He was in two hours and 20 minutes, and among his hits were five fours, eight threes and 11 twos. Messrs Daft and Beves in half an hour increased the score by 54 runs, and then the former was bowled. The 300 had been reached shortly after 5 o'clock. Mr Beves was taken at third man at 321, after which Flowers and Attewell played out time. A very large company witnessed the play.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 August, page 6)

There is little problem of the colonial eleven saving their return match with Notts. Yesterday's cricket further increased the advantage of the county, who supplemented their heavy scoring with capital bowling. In the latter department Attewell, on a wicket which showed signs of crumbling, was very successful, and his achievement with the ball was excellent in any circumstances. Although the weather proved dull and cold spectators mustered in large numbers, and they thoroughly appreciated the efforts of the home eleven. The score on the previous night stood at 359 for six wickets.

Attewell and Flowers, the not-outs, continued the batting at a quarter past 12, a shower of rain having delayed the start. Messrs Woods and Ferris were the bowlers. The former gave way to Mr Turner at 388, but the 400 went up at a quarter to 1. Seven runs later Mr Ferris handed the ball to Mr Trott, but subsequently he went on at the other end. After Flowers had been missed, Attewell was caught at mid-on for a capital 40, in which were two fours, five threes and a two. Since the previous wicket fell 107 runs had been added. Seven for 428.

Shacklock was soon caught at mid-off, and at 436 a ball from Mr Trott dismissed Flowers. The latter had played very well for his 62, in which were six fours, five threes and five twos. Richardson was stumped five runs later, and at 1.35 the innings ended for 441.

The Australians, in the few minutes' play before luncheon, lost Mr M'Donnell, who was caught at extra mid-off, the first wicket falling at four. After luncheon Messrs Trott and Bannerman were opposed by Attewell and Barnes. Steadily the figures reached 31, when Mr Trott was taken at extra mid-off. Without addition, Mr Edwards fell to slip, and at 35 Mr Bannerman had to retire. Afterwards the game went all against the visitors. Mr Turner was caught at extra mid-off, Mr Blackham at mid-on and Mr Ferris was run out, while at 63 Mr Woods played on and Mr Worrall returned the ball. None down. Messrs Lyons and Jarvis gave some trouble for the last wicket and added 32 before the latter was bowled. Time, 4.50.

Against a majority of 346, the Australians followed on. Barnes and Attewell shared the bowling, when Messrs Lyons and Bannerman opened the venture. At 13 Mr Lyons, who had been missed at wicket, was caught at third man, and at 22 Mr Trott was bowled. After several changes in the bowling Messrs Bannerman and Blackham were both disposed of . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 20 August, page 7)

Not the slightest doubt existed on Friday evening as the result of the return match between Nottinghamshire and the Australians. The latter had then followed on against a majority of 346 runs and had lost four wickets for 70. Already the turf was assisting the bowlers, so that the probability of the Colonials saving the game was indeed remote.

On Saturday a few of the batsmen showed good form, but an hour and a quarter's cricket sufficed to finish the game. It was continued at five minutes past 12, when Messrs Jarvis, the not-out with 17, and Turner were confronted by Mr Dixon and Barnes. Thirteen runs were rapidly added, and then Mr Jarvis was finely stumped on the leg side. Five for 83. Mr Woods arrived, but 11 runs later a "yorker" sent back Mr Turner. Six for 94.

When Messrs M'Donnell and Woods became partners the cricket grew lively. Mr Woods drove Barnes for five, while a three to leg by the Colonial captain brought 100 on the telegraph board at 12.35. Eight runs later Attewell displaced Barnes, and shortly afterwards Mr Woods lost his wicket very unluckily. Mr M'Donnell drove a ball straight back to Attewell, off whose hand it glanced into the wicket. Mr Woods happened to be out of his ground and was thus run out. Seven for 109.

Mr M'Donnell and Mr Edwards hit vigorously, but at 135 the former was caught at cover-point, and a single later Mr Ferris lost his wicket in the same way. Nine for 136. When Messrs Worrall and Edwards became partners, the latter made a fine square-leg hit for five, but at 147 his companion was well caught in the long field and the venture terminated. Thus Notts won by an innings and

199 runs.

It may be mentioned that in 1878 the first Australian match played in England was against Notts, who won by an innings and 14 runs.

16 August: SURREY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 August, page 5)

There was a large attendance at the Oval yesterday to see this match. An unwelcome change in the weather, however, interfered with what would otherwise have been a thoroughly enjoyable day's cricket. In the Surrey team Wood stood down through indisposition and Mr C A Trouncer, of Cambridge University, took his place.

On a capital wicket Surrey, who had won the toss, went in first. As usual, Abel and Mr Shuter opened the innings; the early bowling was intrusted to Briggs and Barlow. Both batsmen hit with great freedom. So fast was the rate of scoring that the first ten minutes produced 24 runs, and after Mr Steel and Watson had gone on the 50 was reached in half an hour, and 90 went up as the result of an hour's play. At length, at 92, Mr Shuter had his middle stump bowled down. He had been in an hour and five minutes for his 51, in which were seven fours, three threes and two twos.

With Lohmann in the 100 was reached at 1.25, but at 105 a good catch at long-off sent back the new batsman. Two down. At 115 Abel was well stumped for 54, which included five fours, three threes and six twos. Mr Key and Mr Read included the figures to 137 before luncheon. Subsequently the total reached 155, when Mr Key easily fell to a catch at slip.

The two Reads added 50 in 25 minutes for the next wicket, when Mr Walter Read was well caught by Pilling. He had played a splendid innings of 54, in which were seven fours, a three and nine twos. Mr Bowden was bowled at 240, making six wickets down. Maurice Read continued his vigorous hitting, and before he obstructed his wicket his figures reached 74. He was in an hour and a half, and beyond a chance to Mr Hornby at point when he had made 27 his innings was faultless. Among his contributions were ten fours, four threes and four twos. The last three wickets added only 17 runs, and shortly after 5 o'clock the innings closed for 294. The average runs an hour during the Surrey venture were 73.

Lancashire sent in Mr Eccles and Barlow at 5.20. Runs were scored steadily from Lohmann and Bowley, and at 25 the latter gave way to Beaumont. Ten later Abel relieved Lohmann, and the change should have proved effective, as Mr Eccles, when he had scored 25, was missed by Mr Key at mid-on. Bowley and Lohmann resumed bowling at 47, and in the last over of the day the latter got Barlow out leg before.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 August, page 6)

The Surrey eleven were severely tried yesterday on the Oval. This in a great measure was their own fault. Such bad fielding has not been seen in a match of importance for a very long time, and as catch after catch was missed the spectators became very satirical.

Lancashire took full advantage of their formidable rivals' mistakes. Mr Eccles, who did all the mischief, gave no less than nine distinct chances; the first at wicket when he had made three. Apart from his chances, Mr Eccles's hitting was remarkably clean and brilliant. Overnight Surrey had completed an innings for 294, and Lancashire, with Barlow out, had scored 53.

Mr Eccles was joined yesterday morning by Sugg. Lohmann and Beaumont were the bowlers. With a dozen runs added the professional fell to a very good catch at extra mid-off. Mr Trouncer took the ball at the third attempt. Mr Taylor arrived, but he did not give much trouble, for at 87 a catch at wicket sent him back. When Briggs joined Mr Eccles the game became very lively. The 100 was reached at a quarter past 12, and runs continued to be obtained rapidly. Lohmann failed to accept a return chance from Mr Eccles when the latter had scored 58. The bowling was changed at both ends, but at 162 Beaumont and Lohmann resumed. In the course of two overs the former had each batsman missed from him – Mr Eccles at third man and Briggs at slip. Eventually, at 177, he got Briggs caught at third man for a vigorous 45, in which were five fours, three threes and five twos. During the morning 124 runs had been added in an hour and three-quarters.

With Mr Steel in, more bad fielding was seen. Maurice Read should have caught Mr Eccles in the long field, and directly afterwards the same batsman gave Mr Read a chance at point. The second 100 went up at 20 minutes to 2, and after Henderson had missed Mr Steel at cover point. Mr Eccles completed his 100 just before luncheon, when the total stood at 221.

Play was resumed at a quarter to 3. Four runs were added, and then Mr Steel was caught at slip. Five for 225. Mr Crosfield, who came to the aid of Mr Eccles, played in excellent form. Again was the bowling thoroughly mastered. Mr Eccles was missed at mid-off by Beaumont, after which the Surrey total was passed amid loud applause at 10 minutes to 4, and a little later the 300 was signalled, and Mr Eccles reached his 150. Mr Crosfield gave a return chance, but at 326 he was finely caught and bowled by Lohmann. During the partnership 101 runs were added.

Yates was bowled at 334, and after Mr Eccles had given another chance he played on at 351. He had been in five hours and a quarter for his 184, which included 19 fours, nine threes and 23 twos. Mr Hornby was caught at wicket, and shortly after 5 o'clock the bowling of Watson closed the innings for 376 – an advantage of 82 for Lancashire. It was a very fine performance for the visitors to get so large a total against the great Surrey bowlers.

Mr Shuter and Abel started the second Surrey venture in brilliant style, and ran up 66 in 50 minutes. Mr Shuter was then caught at wicket and Abel at mid-off. Afterwards Mr Key and Henderson played out time.

Day 3 (report from Monday 20 August, page 7)

When there seemed every possibility of Surrey establishing a new record by winning all their matches, they were severely beaten by Lancashire. It was a very good performance by the northern eleven, yet it is impossible to ignore the chances thrown away by Surrey on the second day. It rarely happens that a side scores nearly 300 at its first attempt and then loses the match. But this can easily be understood when the number of catches missed is considered.

On Saturday very few expected to see the great eleven beaten so easily. The wicket is in excellent order, and many of those who journeyed to the Oval would not have been surprised at a drawn match. However, the Lancashire professionals bowled wonderfully well; Briggs's deliveries on the off-side tempted the batsmen so much that such experienced men as Mr W W Read, Mr Bowden and Henderson were all out in trying to hit them. On the previous evening Surrey had begun their second innings and had hit off 73 of the 82 arrears for the loss of Mr Shuter's and Abel's wickets.

The game was resumed at 20 minutes to 12 o'clock. Mr Key and Henderson, the not-outs, were

opposed by Briggs and Watson. A couple of fours to Henderson were obtained in a dozen overs, and then the deficit was hit off. Henderson next cut Briggs for four, but in the following over from the other end a very fine catch at short-leg by Yates sent back Mr Key. Three for 86. With Mr Read in runs were added steadily, and the 100 went up at a quarter past 12. Five more were added and Mr Read was caught at mid-off. M Read stayed until the figures had reached 117, when he returned the ball. Mr Bowden fell to an easy catch at mid-off and six wickets were down for 131.

Lohmann joined Henderson, who had been playing with great care. The former drove Briggs for four, and the latter secured three by a cut. Then the play became very quiet. Only a single was recorded in a quarter of an hour, and it had taken 15 minutes to score 15, when Lohmann was caught at wicket. Seven for 146. Two runs later Mr Trouncer was clean bowled and a catch at extra mid-off dismissed Henderson. The latter had been in two hours and 20 minutes and had given a good display of defensive batting. Nine for 148. Bowley and Beaumont added four runs for the last wicket, when the latter was bowled and the innings closed just before luncheon for 152.

After the interval Lancashire, who wanted 71 for victory, sent in Mr Eccles and Barlow to the bowling of Lohmann and Beaumont. In the former's first over Barlow scored a three to leg, but from a ball which went for four, Mr Bowden should have caught Mr Eccles at the wicket. In the next over Mr Bowden missed Barlow at the wicket, and with the score at 15 he should have stumped the professional. Both bowlers appeared to puzzle the batsmen and the rate of run-getting was slow. With the figures at 20 Barlow was missed by Bowley at extra slip, but if he had left it to Mr Read at point the latter could have easily made the catch. The mistake mattered little, as in the same over Barlow was caught at mid-on.

When Sugg arrived 51 were still wanted to win. The good fielding by Lohmann in the slips was loudly applauded, but Sugg soon began to hit with vigour. He drove Lohmann for four and when Bowley displaced Beaumont he cut and placed him to square leg for four each. Subsequently Lohmann and Beaumont went on, but Sugg treated them all alike. He drove Lohmann three times for four each and cut the other bowler for three. Mr Read took the ball at 65, but Sugg hit him to leg and drove him for four and won the match for Lancashire by nine wickets. The last 50 had been made in less than half an hour; Sugg hit eight fours, a three, a two and four singles.

The afternoon was fine and several thousand people witnessed the finish. At the end of the game a large crowd assembled in front of the pavilion and cheered lustily for Mr Hornby, Mr Shuter and several of the players.

Friday 17 August, page 5: THE AUSTRALIANS v SURREY

The committee of the Surrey Club met yesterday afternoon at the Oval and finally fixed September 20 and following days for the third match with the Australians. The Colonials beat Surrey in the early part of the season, but in the second match the rain undoubtedly saved the Australians the game, which, it will be remembered, was left unfinished.

16 August: SUSSEX v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128256.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 August, page 5)

Mr C A Smith, the captain of the Sussex eleven, played a very fine innings of 142 on the Hove Ground at Brighton yesterday. The occasion was the match between Sussex and Hampshire, both of which counties were well represented.

The home side, who won the toss, went in first. They started badly, and with the figures at 12 Messrs Gresson and Newham and Quaife were out. After some free hitting J Hide left at 51, when four wickets were down. Mr Smith now went in. He hit with great brilliancy and ran up his 142 in a little less than three hours. His only mistake was a chance at wicket when he had scored 58. Among his hits were 20 fours, six threes and 12 twos. Major, a colt who plays for the first time for his county, and Phillips both rendered their captain great assistance.

During the three-quarters of an hour Hampshire were in wickets fell rapidly.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 August, page 6)

The Hampshire eleven could make little headway against their rivals' bowling on the county ground at Brighton yesterday. When play ceased on Thursday evening Sussex had completed an innings for 301 and five Hampshire wickets were down for 28.

Yesterday Baldwin was soon bowled, but Messrs Powell and Forster added 33 for the seventh wicket. Three batsmen were then quickly dismissed, after which a capital stand for the last wicket was made by Young and Roberts, who added 55 runs. In a minority of 163 Hampshire followed on. Except Mr Lacey, Baldwin and Mr Forster, the team batted feebly, and in the end Sussex claimed an easy victory by an innings and 63 runs.

17 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v NORFOLK

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/129/129420.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 18 August, page 6)

Until beaten by Mr J S Carrick's total, Mr W N Roe for a considerable time held the record for the highest individual score. At Lord's yesterday this gentleman playing for Marylebone against Norfolk carried out his bat for 154 out of a total of 254. Each side completed an innings, and to-day Norfolk will have to follow on.

Day 2 (report from Monday 20 August, page 7)

Marylebone followed up the advantage they had gained in this match at Lord's on Friday, and on Saturday secured a very easy victory. Martin, the Kent professional, bowled with great success, and in the double innings secured 14 wickets at an average cost of a fraction under seven runs each . . . The subjoined score will show that Norfolk were beaten by an innings and 23 runs.

17 August: WARWICKSHIRE v STAFFORDSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128260.html)

Day 1 (no report or scorecard from Saturday 18 August, page 6)

Day 2 (report from Monday 20 August, page 7)

Extraordinary scoring was witnessed in this match, which terminated on Saturday at Birmingham. Warwickshire were batting all day on Friday and a portion of Saturday, the total of the innings being 569. Of this number Mr H C Maul contributed nearly half from his own bat. His fine innings of 267 consisted of 40 fours, seven threes, 19 twos and singles. Staffordshire played well and eventually the game was drawn.

Monday 20 August, page 7: THE COUNTIES

In spite of their defeat at the Oval on Saturday, Surrey are still at the head of the counties with a record of 11 wins and one loss. Supposing they lose the other two matches they have to play, they would still have the first position.

Most of the other counties are very close together. Gloucestershire have won five, lost four, drawn three; Yorkshire won four, lost three, drawn four; Kent won six, lost four, drawn two; Lancashire won four, lost five and drawn four; Notts, won three, lost six, drawn three; Middlesex, won three, lost six; Sussex, won one, lost eight, drawn two.

20 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3392.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 August, page 6)

Among the most popular of the cricket festivals held during the season, that at Cheltenham takes a prominent position. Followers of the game in the west of England seem especially keen during the month of August, and both here and at Clifton the attendances are usually very large. An attractive fixture had been arranged for the opening – the return with the Australians.

Naturally the recent decisive victory of the county over the colonials aroused even more interest than otherwise. The visitors were without the services of Mr Woods, and Messrs Boyle and Jones were left out from the 13 players who really comprise the side. Roberts figured in the Gloucestershire Eleven, but Woof was absent. Apart from the latter the team was the strongest that could be got together. Unfortunately, the weather proved dull and threatening, and in the afternoon rain put a stop to play.

The Australians won the toss and took first innings. At half-past 12 Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman began the batting, and were opposed by Roberts and Dr W G Grace. The Australian captain soon grew busy. He made several fine hits for four, but having scored 21 he gave a difficult chance to Mr Pullen at cover-point. Mr Peake relieved Dr Grace at 22. However, the separation was effected from the other end, Mr M'Donnell at 48 being taken at cover-point.

Mr Trott came in and the 50 was soon reached. Afterwards the game went all against the colonials. An addition of four saw Mr Bannerman caught at leg, and a few minutes later Mr Page, standing back from the wicket, cleverly secured Mr Trott. Here the visitors' misfortunes did not end. At 57 Mr Edwards fell to third man and Mr Bonnor returned the ball; six runs later another catch at third man sent back Mr Turner, while Mr Lyons was caught low down at mid-on. Seven for 77.

After the interval Messrs Jarvis and Blackham kept together some time. The latter drove Roberts for four, but at 96 he was taken at slip. Mr Worrall arrived, and the 100 appeared at 3 o'clock. Seventeen runs later Dr W G Grace went on again and quickly got rid of Mr Jarvis, while a good ball from Roberts dismissed Mr Ferris and closed the venture for 118. The weather now became wet and prevented further play. The home fielding was excellent.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 August, page 7)

Both as regards the cricket and the weather there was a most marked improvement on the second day of the festival at Cheltenham. The attendance, too, was one of the largest remembered since its institution. With the play itself the spectators seemed well pleased; but there were those who appeared somewhat disappointed at the Australian batting.

Whatever else had been done, however, must have proved extraordinary to eclipse Dr W G Grace's fine innings. The great English batsman treated the onlookers to splendid hitting which thoroughly aroused their enthusiasm. It reminded one of the earlier days of the county to see the two brothers go in and run up a good score for the first wicket. After Dr W G was out, however, the innings did not fulfil the promise there had been of a very large total. The rain of the previous day began to make the wicket untrue, and towards the close the colonial bowlers had little trouble. But so far the

home side has a substantial advantage. It will be remembered that in the time practicable for cricket on the first innings the Australians completed an innings for 118.

A start was made yesterday morning at 11.35, when the brothers Grace opened the Gloucestershire innings to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Ferris. The wicket proved slow and the early play was quiet. It took rather more than an hour to score 40 runs. Mr Lyons now displaced Mr Turner, but the 50 appeared at a quarter to 1. Then the figures travelled rapidly. Mr Worrall relieved Mr Ferris, but subsequently the original bowlers resumed. At length at 83 a separation was effected, Dr E M being stumped.

Mr Radcliffe joined his captain, who when he had made 46 was let off by Mr Lyons in the deep field. The 100 was telegraphed at half-past 1, and although the bowling underwent another change the batsmen were together at the interval, the score being 126. The teams were entertained at luncheon by Mr Haddon, the mayor of Cheltenham.

Shortly before 3 o'clock the game was resumed. Messrs Ferris and Turner were the bowlers. Nineteen runs were added and then Mr Radcliffe was secured at cover-point. The partnership had yielded 62 runs. Mr Pullen came next, but at 166 Dr W G Grace was bowled for 92. His innings had occupied three hours, and among his hits were seven fours, four threes and eleven twos. Three for 166. Afterwards Messrs Turner and Ferris captured wickets rapidly and the last seven fell in an hour for an addition of 45. Mr Blackham kept wicket in quite his old style.

The Australians, who were 91 runs behind, went in a second time. They lost three good batsmen (Messrs M'Donnell, Trott and Bonnor) for 24 between them, after which Messrs Bannerman and Edwards played out time. The visitors were then 31 behind with seven wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 August, page 5)

For a second time this season have Gloucestershire beaten the Australians. Thus the first match of the Festival at Cheltenham came to an appropriate termination. The success of the western county thoroughly aroused the enthusiasm of the onlookers. In itself the game furnishes another proof of the excellent form Gloucestershire are in this season; indeed, the eleven's successes have surprised even their most ardent supporters.

The wicket played very badly towards the close of the day, and although set only 61 to make for victory, the county was fortunate in getting them so cheaply. Throughout the game the Gloucestershire fielding was remarkably good. The Australians, who were 31 runs behind with seven wickets to fall, continued their batting at 11.35. Messrs Bannerman and Edwards, the not-outs, with 27 and 9, were opposed by Dr W G Grace and Roberts.

Each batsman secured four by a cut, so at 83 the professional handed the ball to Mr Peake. However, the arrears were hit off shortly after noon. Mr Radcliffe now superseded Dr W G Grace and subsequently the bowlers crossed over. Mr Radcliffe then caused Mr Bannerman to be caught at wicket. He had hit with more freedom than usual, and in his 47 were five fours, four threes and four twos. Mr Blackham soon played on, and half the wickets were down for 97. So far Mr Radcliffe had taken two wickets without having a run scored from him. Mr Turner arrived, and the 100 was telegraphed at half-past 12. Roberts bowled a few more overs, but he quickly gave way to Dr W G Grace. The wicket came from the other end, as at 121 Mr Turner fell to a catch at slip.

Mr Jarvis followed in and Roberts resumed bowling. The new batsman began to hit vigorously. Mr Edwards was bowled at 135 and Mr Lyon arrived. The latter drove Mr Radcliffe twice in one over for fours, but at 150 both he and Mr Jarvis were dismissed – Mr Lyons caught at third man and Mr Jarvis at cover-point. Mr Worrall was secured by the w0 and the innings closed for 151.

With 61 to obtain to win Gloucestershire sent in Mr Champain and Dr E M Grace. Twelve runs were obtained before the interval. Afterwards the wicket was made more difficult by a little rain. Mr Champain was bowled at 20, and at 30 Dr Grace fell to a catch at long-on. Painter and Dr W G Grace, however, hit off the runs, a drive by the former from Mr Turner for four winning the match for Gloucestershire by eight wickets.

20 August: KENT v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3393.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 August, page 6)

Lord Harris captained Kent in the return match with Middlesex at Gravesend yesterday. He had a very good side under his command, but Middlesex at the last minute were deprived of the services of Mr O'Brien, who had severely injured his hand. Under these circumstances Mr Webbe gave a trial to Mr J C L Shenton, of Guy's Hospital, who has some reputation as a batsman. The day's cricket proved thoroughly enjoyable, and in all departments of the game there were excellent performances. Spectators, too, in spite of the threatening weather, mustered in strong force.

A start was made shortly after noon, when Kent, who were successful in the toss, sent to the wickets Mr Rashleigh and F Hearne. At first the play proved quiet and a couple of fours by the professional were the chief items for some time. With the figures at 15 Hearne hit the ball into the hands of cover-point, and from the first delivery in the next over a catch at wicket sent back Mr Rashleigh. Two for 15 was by no means a hopeful start.

When Mr Fox, who has shown such consistently good form this season, joined Mr Patterson the score rose rapidly. At 46 Mr Ford took the ball, and at 61 Mr Nepean displaced Burton at the other end. Sixty were added in an hour, but directly afterwards Mr Fox had the misfortune to be run out. Sixty-two runs had been put on during the partnership. Lord Harris soon grew busy. He cut Mr Ford for four and by a similar stroke Mr Patterson secured three. Mr Robinson and Burton resumed bowling at 89, but no separation could be effected, and shortly after luncheon the 100 went up.

Lord Harris then drove a ball from Burton over the ring – almost a chance to Mr Scott at long-on. Subsequently Mr Hadow relieved Mr Robertson. The change proved most effective. At 132 he got Lord Harris caught at wicket for a capital 30, and Mr Patterson was out in the same way at 135. These two batsmen had added 55 runs; Mr Patterson had played in his well-known style for 47, which had taken him two hours to obtain. Among his hits were five threes and eight twos. Mr Hadow quickly bowled G G Hearne, making six wickets down for 148. A Hearne stayed while seven runs, increasing a square leg hit for four by Wright, were scored, and was then well caught at deep square-leg. A single later Mr Hadow bowled Mr Kemp's middle stump out of the ground. Eight for 158.

Wootton joined Wright, who scored rapidly. He hit Mr Nepean to leg for four and three, and when Mr Webbe took up the bowling he secured four by a cut. Having made 33, however, he gave Mr Ford a chance at slip from the Middlesex captain's bowling. Mr Ford and Burton were soon put on to bowl, but the 200 went up at 4.35. Without addition, Wright, who had played very well and had been in 50 minutes, was caught at point. A catch at third man, which dismissed Martin, brought the innings to a close for 203.

Middlesex started batting at 5 o'clock. The start was extraordinary, for Martin, who led off the attack, clean bowled Mr Webbe with the first ball, and his second got rid of Mr Hadow – caught at cover-point. Two for 0. Affairs did not improve for Middlesex. Only six runs were recorded when a good piece of fielding at long-on by Mr Patterson brought about the dismissal of Mr Nepean, while at eight Mr Walker retired – bowled. At 15 Mr Scott cut a ball hard to G Hearne at point, the latter in attempting to secure it turned its course and F Hearne, who was cover to his brother, effected an extraordinary catch. Five for 15.

Mr Ford hit very hard, and after being missed in the long field, he drove a ball from Martin out of the ground for six, but was finally caught low down at mid-on. After the bowling of Mr Shenton, Messrs Paravicini and Robertson played out time. At present the visitors with only three wickets to fall want 76 to avert the follow on.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 August, page 7)

With everything in their favour Kent played a winning game yesterday in a most spirited manner and gained a decisive victory. On the treacherous wicket their bowlers broke the ball considerably, while the fielding was brilliant. One might attend matches a whole season and yet not see so many extraordinary catches as were made by the Kent team during the Middlesex two innings.

The rain which fell overnight rendered the wicket false, and to this was attributed the meagre scoring of the Middlesex side. A large company visited the Gravesend Ground, the weather being fine. Messrs Paravicini and Robertson, the not-outs with 10 and 0, continued the batting of the visitors, who had lost seven wickets for 48. Martin (pavilion end) and Wootton shared the bowling.

Mr Paravicini at once drove the former for three, which increased the figures to 50 at 11.25. From the other end, however, Mr Robertson was caught by Mr Fox running in from long-on. Eight for 52. Mr Bryant joined Mr Paravicini. Runs were scored freely. Each batsman obtained four by a cut, while Mr Bryant also gained eight in three drives from Wootton. Martin now handed the ball to A Hearne, but the other bowler brought about the separation, as with five added Mr Bryant fell to an easy catch at cover-point. Thirty-eight runs had been put on during the partnership.

With Burton in Martin resumed bowling, but Mr Paravicini soon drove him for three. Shortly afterwards, however, Burton was bowled and the innings terminated for 98 at 12.10. Mr Paravicini took out his bat for 44; he had been in an hour and a quarter, and his faultless innings consisted of three fours, four threes, three twos and singles.

With arrears of 105 Middlesex went in a second time at half-past 12. Messrs Webbe and Paravicini started the batting to the attacks of Wright and Martin. Only three runs were recorded when Mr Paravicini was finely caught by Mr Fox running out from extra mid-off. Mr Scott joined his captain and both played very steadily. Mr Webbe cut Wright twice for four and also drove him for three. Shortly afterwards Mr Scott drove a ball dangerously close to Mr Patterson at long-off, who made a determined effort to reach it. The total reached 32 in 50 minutes, and then the bowling underwent a double change, Wootton and A Hearne going on. Mr Webbe cut the latter for three, and at the interval the score stood 36 for one wicket.

Wootton and A Hearne were again the bowlers after luncheon. Meanwhile the wicket had become very treacherous, and it seemed to grow worse every minute. In the third over a very fine piece of stumping sent back Mr Scott, and two wickets were down for 38. Mr Walker came next, but at 42 he lost the company of his captain, who had his off stump bowled down by a good ball from Wootton. Mr Webbe had striven hard to save the game for his side; he had played sound cricket for 26, which took him an hour and 20 minutes to put together.

Misfortunes now fell fast upon the metropolitan county. Mr Hadow in his second over was caught by Mr Patterson, who secured the ball at cover-point high up with his right hand. The catch was loudly applauded. Four for 42. Mr Nepean aided Mr Walker, but the latter was soon clean bowled,

making half the wickets down for 45. A single later Mr Ford was cleverly caught low down at mid-off. Six for 46.

Messrs Nepean and Shenton were now together and 49 were still required to avoid the innings defeat. A cut for three by Mr Nepean increased the score to 50 and ten minutes past 3, after which Mr Shenton drove and cut Hearne for three and two. Lord Harris then secured the latter at short slip, and without addition Mr Robertson was taken at long-on and Mr Bryant stumped. Seven, eight and nine for 62. Burton stayed while Mr Nepean obtained a couple to leg, and was then bowled. Kent thus won by an innings and 41 runs. Since luncheon nine wickets had fallen in rather more than an hour for 28 runs. Wootton took full advantage of the bad wicket and his analysis was remarkable.

20 August: YORKSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3394.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 August, page 6)

Brilliant batting by the Surrey Eleven at Bradford yesterday compensated in some degree for their feeble display on the Oval last Saturday. In the first match between the counties this season the southerners secured an easy victory, and judging from the present state of the return match there is every likelihood of their repeating the success. Several thousand people were present at the Park Avenue Ground, and they watched the game very closely.

Surrey had first innings. Abel and Mr Shuter made a start at 12.25 to the bowling of Preston and Peel. The Surrey captain was secured by third man at 14, but Mr Bowden who took his place hit with great vigour. Fifty was scored in three-quarters of an hour, and Mr Bowden had made more than half the runs when at 64 he played on. It should be mentioned that Abel gave a chance at wicket at 16. Mr Walter Read had his leg stump bowled when only two runs had been added and, as many be imagined, the dismissal of the great Surrey batsman was received with loud cheering from the Yorkshire partisans. Three for 66.

For the next hour and more, however, the company had to be content to watch Maurice Read and Abel completely master the home bowlers. Before the fourth wicket fell 103 runs had been put on. Abel, who was then caught at slip, had played very well, and his 60, which had occupied two and a half hours, included eight fours. Four for 169.

With Mr Key and Read together there was another determined stand. After the former had given a chance of stumping, runs were added at a fast rate. The 200 was completed at half-past 4, and the partnership had yielded 120 runs, when Maurice Read had his middle stump bowled. He had been in three hours for his 109 – a fine exhibition of hard hitting. It was not altogether free from fault. He gave a difficult chance when he had scored 66, at 88 he might have been caught at point by Hall, while just before he was out Lord Hawke missed him at mid-on. He made 11 fours, two threes and 11 twos.

Mr Key then had Lohmann for a partner. The former played especially well and 300 went up at a quarter to 6 . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 August, page 7)

More free hitting was witnessed at Bradford yesterday in the second day of the match Surrey v Yorkshire. Further evidence was given of the strength of the Southerners in batting. Mr Key and Lohmann both played brilliant cricket and while the wicket was wet made most of their opportunities. Later in the day the turf became difficult, and there was capital bowling by Lohmann.

In consequence of rain the start was put off for an hour. Mr Key and Lohmann, the not-outs with 80 and 23, continued the visitors' batting. The score was 326 for five wickets. Mr Key completed his hundred at a quarter to 1, and a few minutes later, after he had been missed at the wicket, he sent the 400 up. An addition of 17, however, saw the long partnership severed, Mr Key's off stump being bowled down. Except for the chance to the wicket-keeper early in his innings he was not let off

until after he had reached his 100. He hit 14 fours, a three and 14 twos. Lohmann fell to a catch at slip at the same total. His 80 comprised 11 fours, three threes and eight twos. Mr Key was in three and a quarter hours, while during his partnership with Lohmann, which lasted an hour and 50 minutes, 128 runs were added. Seven for 417.

Subsequently the home fielding became very loose and several catches were missed. Wood hit freely, and it was not until after luncheon that Henderson, Beaumont and Bowley were sent back. Time, 3.15. Total, 455.

Yorkshire sent in Ulyett and Hall to the bowling of Lohmann and Beaumont. Ten runs were scored, and then Ulyett was caught at long-on. Lee and Hall added 30 runs before the former was caught at third man. Afterwards wickets fell rapidly. Hall obstructed his wicket at 45, and Mr Hirst, Preston, Wainwright and Lord Hawke were all got out before rain stopped the game. As the score subjoined will show, Yorkshire will have to play well to-day to save the match.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 August, page 5)

With the great advantage secured by Surrey on the first two days there was little doubt as to how the match would finish yesterday. During the last two seasons Yorkshire have been very unfortunate in their matches with Surrey, who have generally beaten them in a most decisive manner. Such was the case in the match under notice, for the visitors won by an innings and over 200 runs. Certainly Surrey had the best of the wicket, but in their play generally they showed themselves to be altogether the stronger side.

At Bradford yesterday the weather was fine, when Yorkshire continued the innings. Peel and Wormald, the not-outs, were opposed by Lohmann and Henderson. The wicket played treacherously, and the former considerably puzzled the batsmen. Bowley soon superseded Henderson, and in three-quarters of an hour the venture was finished off for an addition of only 22.

Against a majority of 354 runs Yorkshire followed on at a quarter past 12. Hall and Ulyett faced the attacks of Lohmann and Bowley. Ulyett hit the latter to leg and drove him for four each, and he also sent Lohmann to the boundary. Rapidly the figures reached 31, when Hall was beaten by a ball from Lohmann. Lee joined Ulyett and a capital stand was made. Both batsmen scored freely, but the latter had a narrow escape of being run out. Fifty was reached after three-quarters of an hour's play. Beaumont now received the ball from Bowley, while at 61 Abel displaced Lohmann. Ulyett drove Abel twice for four, and at 75 Lohmann and Bowley were again put on to bowl. When 47 had been added for the partnership Lee was caught at point. Two for 78.

Matters now went badly for Yorkshire. Ulyett played on; he was in an hour and a half for his 51, which consisted of eight fours, three threes and ten singles. Mr Hirst and Preston were quickly bowled by Lohmann, and at luncheon five wickets were lost for 90 runs.

The game was continued at ten minutes to 3. Lohmann and Bowley again had charge of the attack. At 104 the former sent back Wainwright. Lord Hawke and Peel hit freely for a little while, but at 119 the Yorkshire captain was bowled, and at 120 Wormald fared the same fate. Peel, who was in more than an hour for his runs, afterwards left, and Surrey gained an easy victory by an innings and 228 runs. Lohmann bowled very effectively.

20 August: DERBYSHIRE v LANCASHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128262.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 August, page 6)

It must be very gratifying to supporters of the Derbyshire Club to find their county team at length showing some of their ability which individually the side certainly possesses. For several seasons past the eleven has generally figured very badly when contesting any of its more powerful rivals, and the results could have only a disheartening effect on those who had striven so hard to secure a good position for the side among the leading counties. Recently they played a good game with Middlesex, and last week a victory over Yorkshire was placed to their credit.

Yesterday, at derby, in the return match with Lancashire they had slightly the best of the day's cricket. Winning the toss, the home eleven went in first. They lost Mr Wright for ten, but Sugg and Cropper added 43 for the second wicket. The former his four fours and four threes. Later on Chatterton showed good form, while Hall and Disney added 33 for the tenth wicket.

It was 4.25 when Lancashire went in. Barlow played with his customary care and was in an hour and a quarter for his 30. When rain stopped play at ten minutes past 6 Derbyshire, as will be seen from the score subjoined, held a slight advantage.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 August, page 7)

Unruly crowds, at all times most annoying, are rarely seen on a cricket field. Occasionally, however, the spectators become almost riotous, and an instance of this was furnished at Derby yesterday. Late in the day, when Lancashire went in a second time, a decision of one of the umpires was received in a most unsportsmanlike manner by a large number of those watching the cricket. So much hooting took place that Mr Hornby withdrew his team and for some time refused to go on with the game. Eventually, however, he agreed to finish the match. The crowd seemed to have a grievance against the visitors, and the fact that F Sugg, who formerly played for Derbyshire, figured on the Lancastrian side did not smooth matters.

On the opening day Lancashire had rather the worst of the play, and at the drawing of stumps were 68 behind, with only three wickets in hand. Ward and Yates, however, both played well, and 36 were added before the innings closed. The rain by this time had made the wicket difficult, and Derbyshire at their second attempt were out for 56. Messrs Walker and Wright and Hall were the only batsmen to get double figures.

Lancashire had 89 to obtain for victory. They lost five wickets for 69, but the runs were afterwards secured for the loss of one other batsman, and Lancashire won by four wickets.

20 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v PARSEES (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/184/184961.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 August, page 6)

Yesterday the Parsees paid their second visit to headquarters, and were again met by a very good Marylebone side. Winning the toss they went in first on a fast wicket. After losing Mr P D Kanga before a run had been scored, their prospect considerably improved. Mr Morenas played very well, and received some assistance from Messrs Pavri and Cooper. The second wicket fell at 58 and the fourth at 115. Subsequently Messrs Mehta and Bapasola were seen to advantage, and finally the innings realized 177. Rawlin took four wickets . . .

Marylebone went in and kept possession of the wickets until rain stopped play shortly after 6 o'clock. The 100 went up with only three wickets down . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 August, page 7)

Against the bowling of Rawlin, the Marylebone Club professional, the Parsees at Lord's yesterday could make very little headway. For Marylebone Messrs Pope and Ford were the most successful batsmen. The former went in first wicket down at 19 and carried his bat out for 81. His chief hits were four fours, two threes and three twos. Mr M D Kanga claimed three wickets . . .

The Parsees who were 55 behind lost six wickets in their second venture before the arrears were hit off. Then two more batsmen had to retire, and eventually Marylebone were left with 20 to get to win. Rawlin and Phillips bowled unchanged. The former took nine wickets . . .

22 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/129/129422.html)

Day 1 (report from Thursday 23 August, page 5)

At Lord's yesterday the opening day's cricket in the match between Northamptonshire and Marylebone proved of an even kind. The county went in first. Bull and Harris were out for 17 runs, but a stand was made by West and Mr Marshall, who put on 71 for the third wicket. The former hit a five, four fours, four threes and a two, and the latter five fours, a three and nine twos. Colson and Mr Thursby afterwards played well, and the total reached 207. Dunkley claimed seven wickets . . .

In spite of an excellent innings by Mr Pope, Marylebone fared badly and six wickets were down for 85. However, they managed to avert the follow on . . .

Day 2 (report from Friday 24 August, page 8)

An interesting day's cricket was witnessed at Lord's yesterday in the match between Marylebone and Northamptonshire. The latter team went in a second time with an advantage of 49 runs. The bowling had been very equally divided . . .

The county at their second attempt after starting badly did well. Harris carried off the batting honours with a vigorous 84, in which were eleven fours, seven threes and four twos. Mr Henfrey and Colson were also very successful with the bat, and eventually Marylebone had 304 to get for victory. Shacklock took five wickets . . . The game was drawn.

23 August: ENGLAND XI v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3395.html)

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

Eight years have elapsed since the last Australian visit to the Crystal Palace. It was Mr Murdoch's first team which played there twice. Even then the interest in colonial cricket proved very keen, but it was in the few subsequent seasons that the Australian visits attracted so much notice.

The 1880 matches were against an eighteen and the Players of England, the latter forming the last fixture of the tour. An exciting victory by two wickets for the visitors was the result. As the beaten side consisted of Barnes, Barlow, Bates, Selby, Jupp, Emmett, Shaw, Pilling, Lockwood, Morley and Mycroft, it was only natural that the colonists were very proud of their success.

Originally the intention on the present occasion had been to get a representative South of England team. With the chief counties engaged, however, this proved impracticable, and an England side was substituted. If a little weak in batting, the home eleven more than atoned for it by their excellent bowling and fielding, so that at present they hold a substantial advantage.

Yesterday the forenoon showed every probability of a wet day. But about 1 o'clock the rain ceased and an hour later the game began. Afterwards the weather became very fine and several thousand people watched the play. There are few prettier cricket grounds than that at the Crystal Palace, and yesterday the scene it presented was most picturesque. Ordinary visitors were able to obtain a capital view of the play from under the trees on the southern side. Altogether the afternoon's cricket, if a little quiet, was very enjoyable.

On the bad wicket the bowlers had the advantage, especially while the Australians were batting. Messrs Jones and Trott, the latter of whom is rather unwell, were absent from the visitors' side.

Rain began to fall steadily at the hour fixed for the start, and it was decided to defer a beginning until 2 o'clock. Meanwhile the luncheon interval was taken. Mr Smith won the toss and took first innings. Quaife and Mr Sutthery opened the batting at five minutes past 2. Messrs Ferris (pavilion end) and Turner were the bowlers. Each opened with a maiden. In the first half-dozen overs ten runs were scored, both batsmen obtaining five runs to leg. Quaife next drove Mr Ferris to leg for two, but, having made seven, he gave a hard return chance to Mr Ferris. Mr Sutthery drove the latter for three, and at 18 Mr Boyle went on to bowl at the pavilion end. Four runs came in as many overs. Quaife then hit Mr Boyle to the leg boundary, while his companion drove Mr Turner for four. Two catches were now missed; Mr Jarvis let off Mr Sutthery at long-off, while Quaife was missed by Mr Ferris at mid-off. However, at 30 a catch at wicket sent back Mr Sutthery.

Mr Newham joined Quaife, and the play again became quiet. Mr Newham drove Mr Boyle for three and Quaife secured several singles, which increased the score to 40 after an hour's play. Mr Newham cut Mr Turner for four and two, but at 47 he was cleverly stumped. Two down. Cropper, who followed in, started badly, being nearly caught on the off-side. Subsequently four byes increased the score to 50 at 20 minutes past 3. Very slowly the score travelled to 54, when a splendid ball from Mr Turner completely beat Cropper. Chatterton had not been in long when Quaife was let off at the wicket. He had then made 19. Chatterton cut Mr Boyle finely for four, but at 59 he was bowled. Davidson, who followed in, scored seven in three hits. When the total had reached 70 Mr Ferris resumed bowling. The alteration speedily had the effect desired, for with his

second ball he clean bowled Quaife. The latter had been in two hours, but his innings was very lucky. Five for 70.

Humphreys arrived. An addition of four saw the dismissal of Davidson, who ran out to hit Mr Turner and skied the ball to Mr Edwards, who secured it running from mid-off. Six down. Mr Smith made an attempt to force the play, and besides getting a three in the slips he obtained some singles. Several of these were sharp runs, for which the players were heartily cheered. Humphreys left at 86, and half-a-dozen runs later Mr Smith was bowled. Hulme, having added a single, was easily caught at slip. Nine for 95. Disney, the last man, cut Mr Turner for two, and a couple on the leg side brought up the 100 at a quarter to 5. Eight more runs were added, and then the bowling of Phillips closed the innings.

At 20 minutes past 5 Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman began the Australian batting. Phillips and Hulme had charge of the attack. Mr M'Donnell drove the former for two and hit him to leg for three. Seven runs came from the first over, but Hulme's opening ball clean bowled Mr M'Donnell. One for seven. Mr Bonnor, who was loudly applauded, soon began hitting. A fine drive by him produced two, but was finely fielded by Mr Suthery at long-on. He next drove Phillips straight for four, but at 17 he was dismissed by a fast "yorker" and Mr Bannerman fell to an easy catch at slip. Three for 17.

Messrs Turner and Edwards were now associated. The former nicked Hulme to leg for three – the first hit made from that bowler – and hit a bad ball from Phillips to square-leg for four. Quickly the figures reached 25, when a catch at wicket got rid of Mr Turner. Mr Jarvis came next. At 27 Mr Edwards got over his crease to play Phillips and was stumped through the ball rebounding off the wicket-keeper's pads. Play then ceased.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 August, page 7)

If anything, the advantage possessed by the Englishmen on Thursday evening seemed to have increased the interest in this match. Yesterday's cricket at the Crystal Palace proved thoroughly enjoyable. It slightly fluctuated and, as the score now stands, it may be said to be "anybody's match." Until late in the afternoon the sun shone brilliantly, and there was again a very large attendance of spectators. These followed the game with keen interest. But that it was not the crowd one usually finds at Lord's or the Oval was very apparent. This was detected not only in the criticisms overheard, but in the way the applause was given.

Again, when the Australians went in to bat a second time a bad light so severely handicapped them that they were fully justified in asking the umpires for their opinion on the matter. The majority of those present, however, seemed totally indifferent as to the light to play in, which was manifestly unfair to the batting side. However, the storm came at the right time and caused every one to seek shelter.

With regard to the cricket itself, there were capital performances in every department. Mr Suthery's batting stood out very prominently among the features of the day, as did also the bowling of Hulme, the young Derbyshire professional.

The drawing of stumps on Thursday left the advantage with the Englishmen, who, having scored 108, had dismissed five of their opponents for 27. Mr Jarvis, the not out, was joined by Mr Worrall. Hulme and Phillips were again the bowlers. Mr Jarvis played Hulme square for two and drove him

to the off for four. Mr Worrall secured three in the slips; but Hulme then bowled his leg stump out of the ground. Six for 36. Mr Blackham at the same total had his leg stump bowled; and Mr Lyons, after each had scored a single, was out in the same way. Eight for 38.

So far the game had been in progress 20 minutes and 11 runs had been added. Two singles from Phillips were made, and then Mr Ferris was secured at slip. Mr Boyle, after being missed at wicket, cut Hulme for a couple, and his companion, by a similar stroke at the other end, gained four. Then Mr Boyle was bowled, and at 12.35 the venture terminated for 47. There had been some remarkable bowling by Hulme.

With an advantage of 61 the Englishmen went in a second time at 1 o'clock. Quaife and Mr Sutthery again opened the batting, while, as usual, Messrs Ferris and Turner had charge of the bowling. Mr Sutthery obtained three on the leg side, and Quaife got Mr Turner in the same direction for two. Eight runs resulted from four overs, and then Quaife was caught at wicket. Mr Newham came next. After some quiet play Mr Sutthery cut Mr Ferris for four, and a bad ball from the same player he hit finely to leg with a like result. Mr Newham then attempted to play forward to a short ball from Mr Ferris, which he missed, and retired – bowled.

Cropper followed in. Three byes raised the figures to 20, after as many minutes' play. Again the cricket became very slow. Apparently the wicket was playing more true than hitherto, yet the bowling was so good that only singles were recorded for a long time. Later on Mr Sutthery cut Mr Ferris for three, but was then let off by Mr Turner at point; he had now scored 22. Subsequently the Cambridge batsman got a fast "yorker" from Mr Turner to leg for four. At 44, however, he lost the company of Cropper, who played a ball into his wicket. Three down. Twenty-five had been added during the partnership. A couple of runs later Chatterton had his leg stump sent out of the ground. Four for 46. The interval for luncheon was then taken.

Play was continued at ten minutes to 3. Davidson occupied the vacant wicket. Fifty went up at five minutes to 3. Davidson was then missed at mid-off by Mr Edwards, but the mistake did not matter in the least. The batsman had followed up his hit and a splendid piece of fielding by Mr M'Donnell at mid-off resulted in his being run out. Five for 53. Humphreys joined Mr Sutthery, who continued to play very well. The professional, before he had scored, was missed by the Australian captain at mid-off. He then sent Mr Turner to leg for two, and cut the other bowler for four. Mr Sutthery was loudly applauded for two fine off-drives from Mr Turner to the boundary. He hit the same bowler to leg for three. Three byes were followed by a drive for two by Mr Sutthery, who thus completed his 50 at 3.25.

At 79 Humphreys was run out and Mr Smith arrived. Mr Sutthery then drove Mr Turner finely for four; but in the same over he was out to a catch low down at slip. The batsman seemed doubtful as to the ball going straight into the hands of the fieldsman, and appealed to both umpires. He had been in an hour and three-quarters, and in his excellent innings of 54 were six fours, four threes and five twos. Seven for 84. Phillips stayed while three runs were added, and then fell to cover-point. Eight for 87. Hulme joined his captain, who cut Mr Turner to the boundary. At 98, however, Mr Ferris bowled Hulme and Disney in one over, and the innings closed for 98 at ten minutes to 4. The bowlers had been unchanged during the innings.

On anything but a good wicket the task of getting 160 runs was somewhat formidable. Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman began the colonial second innings at 20 minutes past 4 to the bowling of Phillips and Hulme. The Australian captain soon grew busy. After several small hits he drove Hulme finely to the off-boundary, and also cut him for four. Altogether he scored ten in one over

from the fast bowler. Good fielding by Mr Smith at long-off elicited loud applause. Thirty went up after a quarter of an hour's play. A single later Davidson superseded Phillips, but Mr M'Donnell quickly drove him for four. Chatterton at 39 was put on at the lower wicket, and in his first over he clean bowled Mr M'Donnell. One for 39.

By this time the light had become so bad that Mr Bonnor appealed to the umpires, but the game was proceeded with. Every minute it grew darker. The batsmen played patiently, and 50 was signalled at ten minutes to 5. Hulme, who had resumed, again gave way to Chatterton, and for a second time this variation had the effect desired. Mr Bonnor had his leg stump struck by the new bowler's first ball, and two wickets were down for 51.

Mr Edwards, who followed in, at once appealed to the umpires as to the fairness of going on in such a bad light. A discussion between the umpires and players ensued, and the company became very boisterous. There were loud cries of "Play on," although cricket in such a light was most absurd. The storm which had been threatening then broke over the ground and decided the question. Rain fell in torrents. Stumps were soon drawn for the day. The Australians now require 109 runs to win with eight wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 August, page 7)

No little disappointment was felt at Sydenham on Saturday through the feeble display of batting given by the Colonials. In most quarters a close finish had been anticipated, and many people assembled on the Crystal Palace ground to watch the game.

The weather was very fine, but the turf had not recovered from the storm of the previous evening. While the wicket remained wet, however, the batsmen should have scored more freely. But there was no one to force the hitting, and after the dismissal of Mr Bannerman the game soon ended. Both in bowling and fielding the Englishmen were seen to great advantage; Messrs Smith and Suthery especially distinguished themselves in the latter department. The drawing of stumps on Friday evening had left the Colonials with 109 to obtain for victory and eight wickets in hand, so that there was every prospect of an even game.

Messrs Bannerman and Edwards were the not outs with 14 and 0. The game was resumed at 10 minutes past 12, Phillips (pavilion end) and Hulme having charge of the bowling. Mr Bannerman led off with a single and his companion followed with a drive for two – both hits from Phillips. Mr Edwards next drove the same bowler to the on for four, and in the next few overs he gained several singles and a couple by a drive. Fifteen runs had been added in ten minutes when Mr Edwards had his off stump bowled by a good ball from Phillips. Three for 66.

Mr Turner joined Mr Bannerman, who hit Hulme to the off for two. Mr Turner's stay, however, was brief, as in the second over a ball from Phillips completely beat him. Four for 68. Mr Jarvis, the next man, stayed while a single was added in four overs, and then fell to an easy catch at slip. With half the wickets down and still 91 to get to win, the chances of an Australian success were not bright.

When Mr Worrall was in the cricket became much more brisk. Several sharp singles were obtained, but at 76 Mr Worrall got over his crease and was easily stumped, Mr Blackham taking the vacant place. Mr Bannerman, however, then left, as after having a narrow escape of being run out he played under a ball, which went into the hands of Mr Smith at extra slip. The retiring batsman had

been in an hour and three-quarters for his 21 – an innings in which he had shown all his well-known caution. Seven for 76.

Mr Lyons made a single and then fell to a good catch by Mr Smith fielding deep at mid-off. Eight down. At 80 Mr Blackham's off stump was bowled out of the ground, and with Mr Boyle easily stumped the innings closed for 81. Thus the Englishmen won by 78 runs. The bowling of Phillips and Hulme in both innings had been remarkably effective, while Chatterton each time he was put on got the dangerous batsman out.

23 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3396.html)

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

With so many of the leading amateur players on the sides, the reason of the great popularity of this fixture is apparent. Middlesex took down a very strong team. Mr O'Brien was again able to help his county, while the Hon F J N Thesiger, of the Oxford eleven and last year's captain at Winchester, also figured in the metropolitan eleven. Gloucestershire were equally strong, but yesterday they had distinctly the worst of the game.

For the fourth day of the festival the weather opened anything but fine, and at the hour fixed for the start the outlook was gloomy, rain falling. However, the weather improved and the game began at 20 minutes past 1. A feature of the day's play was the brilliant fielding of the Middlesex eleven, the Hon F Thesiger especially distinguishing himself in this department. It was in catching Dr W G Grace from a very fine hit that an unfortunate accident happened to Mr E M Hadow, who, having secured the ball, fell on to the rails of the Grand Stand and severely cut his head. Dr Henry Grace, a brother of the Graces, was quickly in attendance and, after dressing the wounds, had Mr Hadow taken to the residence of Mr E J C Studd. This accident happened just prior to lunch.

Gloucestershire, who won the toss, opened the batting with the brothers Grace. Burton and Mr Ford were the bowlers. Runs came rapidly, chiefly from Dr E M Grace's bat, and 20 were scored in a quarter of an hour. Messrs Nepean and Robertson were soon put on, and both changes had the desired effect. Dr E M Grace was caught at long-on and Dr W G Grace at square-leg by Mr Hadow, who then met with the accident mentioned.

The game was continued at 3 o'clock, Messrs Pullen and Radcliffe being partners. Fifty was soon reached, and then the bowling underwent another change, Burton resuming. Wickets began to fall rapidly. The third went at 66, and three more for an addition of four runs. It was only Mr Townsend's vigorous hitting that enabled the county to register over the century. The innings was completed for 115. Mr Bryant kept wicket very well.

When Middlesex went in Mr O'Brien hit with great brilliancy, and 65 runs were obtained in 40 minutes. Mr O'Brien hit six fours. Mr Walker, who was bowled, left at 31, and then Messrs O'Brien and Thesiger played out time. Middlesex are now only 50 behind with nine wickets in hand.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 August, page 7)

The match at Cheltenham yesterday was sadly interfered with by rain. During the time possible for play the visitors secured a substantial advantage, a fact chiefly due to the fine hitting of Mr Ford. Of course the bad weather kept many people away, but those who were present had the good fortune to see some vigorous batting on the part of Middlesex. On the wet wicket the bowlers were at a disadvantage, while the fieldsmen also found the ball slippery.

The weather delayed the start until half-past 11 o'clock, when Middlesex, who had scored 65 for one wicket, continued their defence. Messrs O'Brien and Thesiger were the not-outs with 48 and 8. The batsmen hit freely and the 100 was reached at a quarter to 12. Mr Thesiger, who had shown

capital form, was then bowled. He and Mr O'Brien had added 69 runs to the score. Mr Nepean came in. At 102 Mr O'Brien's free innings was closed. His 50 included eight fours, three threes and six twos.

Mr Ford aided Mr Nepean. The former was missed by Mr Page at wicket when he had only made a single, and this mistake proved very expensive to the western county, as, after his escape, Mr Ford hit with great vigour and punished most of the bowlers severely. He scored three fours in succession from Roberts, who soon gave way to Mr Radcliffe. The latter quickly bowled Mr Nepean, but when Mr Webbe arrived the score still advanced rapidly. After a stoppage caused by rain, Mr Webbe at 161 was caught by the wicket-keeper. Five down.

Mr Paravicini joined Mr Ford, who continued to bat with freedom until rain stopped play for the day. Mr Ford had then made 60 out of 84 added so far during his stay. The game will be resumed this morning. Cricketers will hear with pleasure that Mr Hadow was sufficiently well yesterday to visit the ground.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 August, page 7)

The festival at Cheltenham did not end for the home eleven so successfully as it began. This appeared most disappointing to the followers of the county, who thoroughly expected their side to win. Gloucestershire, however, never made up the ground they lost by their feeble batting on Thursday, while a mistake in the field, which let off Mr Ford, cost them a large number of runs.

Beautiful weather favoured the concluding day's cricket, which was closely watched by a numerous company. The wicket played treacherously, and Mr de Paravicini and Mr Radcliffe were the only batsmen who showed good form. The close of Friday's play left the score thus: - Gloucestershire, 115; Middlesex, 186 for five wickets. Messrs Ford and Paravicini, the not-outs, with 60 and nine, continued the visitors' batting at five minutes past 11. Roberts and Dr W G Grace shared the bowling.

The 200 was soon reached, but three runs later Mr Ford's brilliant innings was terminated by a catch at slip. He had been missed at wicket when he had scored a single, otherwise his batting was free from fault. Among his hits were seven fours, three threes and nine twos. Six for 203. Mr Robertson stayed with Mr Paravicini until the latter was caught for a capital 42. Seven for 252. Mr Bryant afterwards hit with great freedom, and when the innings closed the total had reached 295. Mr Hadow, although much better, had not sufficiently recovered to take further part in the game.

Requiring 180 to avert defeat, Gloucestershire went in a second time at a quarter past 1. The start was bad. From Mr Nepean's second ball Dr W G Grace was smartly stumped, and at five Dr E M Grace was out in the same way. Mr Pullen then joined Mr Radcliffe and the pair stayed together until 47, when Mr Pullen was caught at wicket. Afterwards the batsmen were dismissed rapidly. Mr Radcliffe alone played the bowling with any confidence on the bad wicket. A very fine catch in the long field sent back Mr Townsend.

Mr Radcliffe was eventually caught at wicket for a brilliant 76, in which there were six fours, four threes and 11 twos. He went in first wicket down and was eighth to leave. The last two batsmen were soon disposed of, and Gloucestershire were beaten by an innings and 33 runs.

23 August: KENT v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3397.html)

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

Lord Harris captained a strong Kent eleven yesterday in the return match with Yorkshire. The latter were also well represented. In spite of the uncertain weather there was a good attendance at the Mote Park Ground, Maidstone, and the play itself proved thoroughly interesting.

Yorkshire won the toss and went in first. Lord Hawke opened the innings with Hall, to the bowling of Wootton and A Hearne. Only six runs were scored when the former bowled the Yorkshire captain. Ulyett and Hall, however, made a good stand. At 27 Martin superseded Hearne, and at 40 Wootton gave way to Mr Fox. The total stood at 45 when Ulyett played on. Further trouble was given the Kent bowlers by Hall and Lee, who, in spite of several changes in the attack, had raised the score to 78 at the interval.

On the resumption of play runs were added steadily. Among other alterations in the attack Mr Patterson was tried, and eventually he got Lee stumped. The 100 had gone up at half-past 3. The partnership had yielded 57 runs. Peel and Hall stayed together some time, but eventually the latter was secured at point. He was in three hours and a quarter, and in his 49 were five fours, a three and six twos.

Peel, Preston and Moorhouse were soon dismissed, and seven wickets were down for 135. Wade and Wainwright hit vigorously and advanced the score to 192. Then the last three wickets fell and the innings ended. Wainwright was missed when he had made very few runs. In the little time that Kent were batting they fared very badly . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 August, page 7)

Mote-park, Maidstone, was yesterday the scene of a capital day's play in the return match between Kent and Yorkshire. At the drawing of stumps on the previous evening Yorkshire had scored 192 and Kent had lost four wickets for seven runs.

Yesterday morning shortly after 11 o'clock, Mr Patterson joined Wootton. Peel and Preston shared the bowling. Wootton was missed four times before, at 37, he was bowled. Mr Fox came next, but he only survived a few overs, being bowled at 41. Everything now pointed to Kent following on, as with only four wickets to fall they required 72 to avert it. Lord Harris and Mr Patterson, however, made a determined stand. Several changes in the bowling were adopted before, at 82, his lordship was bowled. The partnership had thus realized 41 runs.

With Mr Tonge in, the 100 was reached at 1 o'clock, and 20 minutes later the follow on was saved amid loud cheers. Afterwards, however, the innings came to a rapid close. At 114 Mr Tonge fell to mid-off; a single later F Hearne played on, while Mr Patterson obstructed his wicket. The latter had played a splendid innings, and to his batting was mainly due the creditable score of 120.

Yorkshire, who had an advantage of 72 on the first innings, went in a second time shortly before 2 o'clock. They had scored four runs at the adjournment. When the game was resumed matters entered badly with the visitors. Martin and Wright bowled most effectively, and except Peel the

side offered very feeble resistance. In an hour and 40 minutes the team was out for 75. It should be mentioned that the Kent fielding was excellent, while in both innings Mr Kemp showed great dexterity behind the wicket.

Kent had 148 to obtain for victory. F Hearne and Wootton started the venture to the bowling of Peel and Preston. Hearne played on at 8, and at 39 Wootton was caught at point. Subsequently Mr Fox fell to mid-on and Lord Harris to slip, and four wickets were down for 53. To-day, in spite of last night's rain, the game should produce a good finish, as with six wickets to fall Kent have 95 to obtain for victory.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 August, page 7)

With 95 to obtain for victory and six wickets to fall, Kent had some prospect of [bringing] their season to a close in a most successful manner. Heavy rain at Maidstone on Friday evening, however, rendered the turf slow, and on Saturday morning the wicket at Mote-park became treacherous under the effects of the hot sun.

At a quarter past 11 Mr Patterson, the not-out, with 21, was joined by Tonge. Preston and Peel had charge of the bowling. Both batsmen started carefully, but in the third over, before a run had been scored, Mr Tonge in playing forward to Preston was easily secured at point. Five for 53. George Hearne arrived. Very slowly the figures travelled, runs being most difficult to obtain. Nine were added and then the professional was caught at mid-on, and an addition of ten saw Wright's middle stump bowled out of the ground by Preston.

A Hearne now joined Mr Patterson, whose capital innings soon closed by a catch at mid-off. He had twice got Peel away on the leg side, but in attempting to make the stroke for the third time he did not hit the ball so well and was caught. He had gone in first wicket down and was eighth to leave at 73. Mr M C Kemp hit vigorously and made 20 out of 22 added for the ninth wicket. During his stay the bowling was changed at both ends – Middlebrook and Wainwright going on. A Hearne was then out, and by a quarter to 1 Yorkshire had secured the victory by 51 runs.

23 August: LANCASHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3398.html)

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

Apart from the brilliant innings of Mr A N Hornby, the cricket at Manchester yesterday proved monotonous. An idea of the quietness of the play may be gleaned from the fact that the runs during the day averaged only 26 an hour.

Rain fell in the morning, and the wicket at Old Trafford proved so wet that a start was not made until 12.35. Lancashire, who had won the toss, then sent in Mr Hornby and Barlow. Attewell and Flowers had charge of the bowling. Before he had scored Barlow should have been stumped, while Mr Hornby, after giving a difficult chance to point, ought to have been run out. So quiet was the play that an hour produced only 26 runs. Briggs now bowled for Attewell, but at 48 he gave way to Richardson. Six runs later Mr Hornby ran himself out. He had scored his 50 out of 54 in an hour and 20 minutes, and the mistakes mentioned were his only faults. Among his hits were five fours, a three and six twos. Up to this point Barlow had only made three singles. Sugg came in, and at luncheon the score was 57.

On resuming Flowers and Richardson were the bowlers. Sugg was soon caught at point, while Mr Crosfield at 76 returned the ball. A single later Briggs had to leave, and Barlow and Baker, after a brief interruption by rain, raised the figures to 91. Baker was then caught at long-on and at 92 Robinson fell to mid-off. Ward was run out, and with the 100 telegraphed Barlow was at length sent back. He had been in three hours and a half for 17. A couple more runs saw the innings closed.

The light was bad when Notts went in. Pilling soon stumped Mr Dixon, but then Scotton and Briggs played out time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 August, page 7)

No play was practicable at Manchester yesterday owing to the rain. The game was postponed until this morning. Lancashire have scored 102 and Nottinghamshire 14 for one wicket.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 August, page 7)

There was no play in the return match between these counties on Friday in consequence of rain. Saturday's cricket proved even more quiet than that of the opening day, and all through it was distinctly a bowler's match. At one time there seemed every probability of the game being definitely decided, but Barlow and Baker kept together a long time, and rain towards the close soon settled the question. As in the first innings, Barlow showed extraordinary patience, and was at the wickets two hours and a quarter for his 14.

When the game was resumed on Saturday morning Lancashire had completed an innings for 102, and Notts had lost one wicket for 14. The turf was slow and difficult at the time that Briggs and Watson went on with the attack. Before a run had been added Scotton was bowled. Shortly afterwards a catch at slip sent back Briggs, while at 23 Barnes was dismissed.

Wickets continued to fall rapidly. Gunn was caught at slip two runs later, and at 26 Mr Daft was caught at cover-point. An addition of four saw Mr Beves return the ball. Flowers and Attewell made a short stand and raised the figures to 44 before the former was taken at third man. Attewell and Richardson hit freely for a time and put on 20 runs prior to the latter's dismissal. Sherwin was soon bowled and the innings was over at 1.25 for 73.

Lancashire went in a second time with a lead of 29 runs, and before luncheon they lost Mr Hornby – caught at mid-off for six runs. Subsequently Sugg was taken at long-on, and at 15 Mr Crosfield had his leg stump bowled down. Briggs was soon bowled, and four wickets were lost for 20 runs. Baker and Barlow, however, made a stand, and though the rest of the side did little, the innings realized 64. Attewell, Richardson and Flowers all did well with the ball.

Notts had 94 to obtain for victory, but only three-quarters of an hour remained for play; so that there was little chance of the match being finished. Rain soon fell and eventually the game was drawn. Previously the weather had been fine and several thousand people were on the ground.

23 August: SURREY v LEICESTERSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128263.html)

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

Surrey appeared determined not to risk a second defeat at the hands of Leicestershire. With the exception that Mr Shuter was absent, they placed their strongest eleven in the field against the Midland team at the Oval yesterday. In the two losses experienced by Surrey at Leicester in the last three years, Pougher has generally had a hand, and on the Oval this fast bowler's name has become very familiar.

Yesterday Leicestershire were also well represented, but at present they have much the worst of the game. Successful in the toss, the visitors took first innings. Except Warren and Tomlin, the side made a most feeble display against the bowling of Lohmann. The two batsmen named contributed 59 towards the total of 78.

Play began at a few minutes past 12, and after a delay in consequence of rain there seemed every prospect of the visitors making a good score. Before the second wicket fell 66 were recorded. Then came a collapse. Lohmann at one time took three wickets in an over. The last eight only added a dozen runs, and the venture, which lasted about an hour and a half, closed for 78. In his last four overs and three balls Lohmann took seven wickets.

Surrey lost Abel before a run was scored. Afterwards the figures reached 79 when the second wicket fell. Mr Bowden played a brilliant and faultless innings of 59, in which were eight fours, two threes and six twos. He made his runs, out of the 79, in a little over 50 minutes, being second to leave – caught at cover-point. Towards the close Mr Trouncer hit freely and made seven fours, six twos and six singles. Leicestershire went in a second time in a minority of 102.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 August, page 7)

Mr M P Bowden seems to have completely recovered those great batting abilities which he showed that he possessed some years ago when first tried for his county against Notts. Yesterday afternoon at the Oval he supplemented his fine innings of the previous day by a score of 81, obtained in quite as brilliant a manner. On Thursday each side had completed an innings and Leicestershire, having gone in against a majority of 102, had lost one wicket for 18 runs.

The game was continued at half-past 11. Lohmann and Beaumont were the bowlers who opposed Warren and Tomlin, the not-outs. Runs were added rapidly, and the score reached 45 before Tomlin, who had been missed in the slips, was caught at cover-point. After the 50 had gone up at 12.5 Wheeler and Mr Marriott were both out, and 10 runs later Mr de Trafford was bowled without scoring. Five for 62.

Mr Crofts and Warren, however, made a determined stand. The 100 was reached shortly after 1 o'clock, but at 115 Warren was at length caught at wicket. He had been in two hours and a quarter, and his hits included five fours, two threes and four twos. This partnership had yielded 53 runs, but Pougher and Mr Crofts added 66 for the next wicket. In the latter's excellent 61 were four fours, four threes and six twos. Pougher saw the rest of the side dismissed and took out his bat for 38. The innings realized 207.

Surrey had 106 to get for victory. Abel and Mr Bowden started the innings, but at 21 the professional was bowled. Read joined Mr Bowden, and a very brilliant display of hitting was witnessed. In a hour and a quarter the 106 runs were obtained, no fewer than 81 of this number coming from the bat of Mr Bowden, who hit eight fours, four threes and 10 twos. The score subjoined will show that Surrey won by nine wickets.

23 August: SOMERSET v ESSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128520.html)

Days 1 and 2 – no reports found.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 August, page 7)

The return match between these counties formed the second part of a week's cricket at Taunton. On the opening day the visitors went in and ran up the creditable total of 197, while six Somerset wickets went down for 113. Thus the game was left in an even state. Great disappointment was felt that it rained so continuously on Friday as to prevent play.

On Sat, however, the weather held fine. The five outstanding Somerset wickets were captured for an addition of 55 – total, 168. With 29 runs in hand, Essex went in a second time. They could make little headway, however, against the attacks of Tyler, who dismissed eight of them for 23, the last wicket falling for 48 only. This set Somerset 78 to in, and although at one time the result was in doubt, Essex were ultimately defeated by three wickets.

27 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3399.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 August, page 7)

Gloucestershire batted in a most feeble manner yesterday on the College-ground at Clifton in the return match with Surrey. Previous to their defeat last week by Middlesex they were playing remarkably well, but now their defence appears to be of a very weak character. One can scarcely realize the strong western county being dismissed for 39, even with a bowler of Lohmann's reputation against them. Such was the case yesterday, and after the capital Surrey batting everything points to an easy success for the powerful metropolitan eleven.

Rain had fallen overnight, but beyond being a little slow there was nothing the matter with the wicket. Gloucestershire won the toss and went in. Their venture, however, needs little description. It lasted only an hour, and no one on the side reached double figures. Misfortunes began with Dr W G Grace playing on, and the first five wickets fell in 20 minutes. Lohmann and Beaumont bowled unchanged.

Abel and Mr Bowden opened the Surrey innings to the bowling of Woof and Roberts. The amateur hit freely, and although Mr Peake and Dr W G Grace were tried, the total stood at 38 before he was caught at point. After luncheon Mr Key stayed with Abel some time and added 57. The former was then caught at mid-on. Mr Read left at 123 and his namesake was out 46 runs later.

Another stand was made by Mr Shuter and Abel and the score reached 221, or 52 for the partnership, before Dr W G Grace bowled the Surrey captain. He also sent back Lohmann and Henderson, but then Abel and Wood kept together until the drawing of stumps. Abel had played splendidly and had been in rather more than three hours and a half.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 29 August, page 12)

Bristol and its suburbs were visited by heavy rainstorms yesterday, and cricket on the Clifton College Ground was quite impracticable. It was nearly 4 o'clock, however, before all idea of play was given up. If possible, the game will be resumed this morning. At present the score stands: - Gloucestershire, 39; Surrey, 261 for seven wickets.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 August, page 4)

Very little play was witnessed in this match at Clifton yesterday, and it was eventually left unfinished. In the time that cricket took place Abel, who was not out 94, fell to a catch at deep square-leg. His 96 included ten fours and five threes. After luncheon rain came down heavily and the game was abandoned.

27 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3400.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 August, page 7)

After their decisive victory over Gloucestershire, the Middlesex eleven appeared yesterday at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, where they had much the better of the opening of the return match with Nottinghamshire. There were two alterations in the visitors' side, Mr Vernon and Dunkley taking the places of Messrs Thesiger and Hadow. The home eleven suffered through the inability of Barnes to bowl, the latter having severely injured his hand. Mee, a fast bowler, was tried in lieu of Briggs. At first the weather was pleasant, but in the afternoon rain fell heavily.

Mr Webbe won the toss and sent in on a good wicket Messrs O'Brien and Walker. Attewell and Flowers shared the bowling. Mr O'Brien hit with great freedom, and although the attack was varied, 50 went up at five minutes to 1, while at the end of an hour the score stood at 83. Nine runs later, however, Mr O'Brien obstructed his wicket. His brilliant innings of 58, which, however, was not free from fault, included four fours, eight threes and eight twos. One for 92. With Mr Ford in the 100 was soon reached, but three runs more and he was bowled. Mr Nepean followed in, and at luncheon the score stood at 110.

On resuming, Richardson and Mee had charge of the attack. Eight runs were added, and then the latter dismissed Mr Walker. He had been in two hours, and among his runs were two fours, six threes and four twos. Mr Webbe soon played on, and with Mr Vernon bowled, half the wickets were down for 129. Mr de Paravicini then joined Mr Nepean, and in spite of further changes the figures had reached 179, or 50 for the partnership, when rain stopped play for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 29 August, page 12)

It will be remembered that heavy rain stopped play early on Monday in the return match between these counties at Trent Bridge, Nottingham. Yesterday the weather showed no improvement, and after waiting some hours it was decided to postpone further cricket until this morning. The score is – Middlesex, 179 for five wickets.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 August, page 4)

The return match between these counties was concluded yesterday at Trent Bridge, Nottingham. When play ceased on the previous evening Middlesex had scored 179 for five wickets. Mr Nepean, who was not out for 45, saw the rest of the side dismissed for an addition of 46. His 50 consisted of a five, four fours, three threes, eight twos and singles. Richardson was the most successful bowler.

Mr Dixon and Scotton made a capital start for the home side and scored 45 for the first wicket. The batsmen were then dismissed rapidly, and seven were out for 79, while nine were down for 107. Attewell, however, hit well and the total reached 120. Notts followed on, and the game was drawn .

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27 August: OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITIES PAST AND PRESENT v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3401.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 August, page 7)

When the fixture between the Colonials and Past and Present University cricketers had been arranged it was anticipated with much interest. If strong in batting, however, the side got together is lamentably deficient in the attack, so that for a good game it was necessary that the team should make a large score. In this they were successful, and their innings occupied nearly the whole of yesterday.

The United Services Ground at Portsmouth is notable for excellent wickets, and on the present occasion it was quite up to the average. The weather was fine and a large company witnessed the match. It may be noted that Mr Rashleigh, this year's Oxford captain, is the only Present player in the home team.

Successful in the toss, Lord Harris opened the Englishmen's batting with Mr Patterson at 20 minutes to 1. As usual the early bowling was shared by Messrs Turner and Ferris. Both batsmen scored freely and the first 20 minutes produced as many runs. With the total at 39 a change in the attack was adopted, Mr Boyle relieving Mr Ferris. Lord Harris, however, speedily drove him twice for four, and but a cut for three he completed the 50 after as many minutes' play. Mr Ferris at 64 relieved Mr Turner, and eight runs later Mr Lyons displaced Mr Boyle. Still runs came rapidly and at 86 Mr Turner resumed. However, at the interval the record remained unaltered. The batsmen had scored at about the same rate, for Mr Patterson was then not out 44 and Lord Harris two less.

When the game was resumed shortly before 3 Messrs Ferris and Turner bowled at opposite ends to which they had begun. Ten runs were added when Lord Harris fell to a catch at slip. He had been in an hour and a half, and in his 52 were six fours, five threes and two twos. One for 96. Mr Roe made three and was bowled. With Mr Rashleigh in, however, the 100 went up at 10 minutes past 3 o'clock. Mr Patterson then gave a chance to Mr Bonnor at slip; he had then made 48. At 123 Mr Rashleigh was leg before, and a "yorker" sent back Mr Pigg at the same total. Four for 123.

Runs came at a very fast rate while Mr Henery and Mr Patterson were together. Although Messrs Trott and Boyle were tried 52 runs were added in 25 minutes before Mr Henery was finely caught at slip. Mr A J Thornton came in, but when Mr Turner resumed bowling he quickly left. Mr Patterson was seventh out – caught and bowled – at 195, for 84. His superb innings including five fours, eight threes and 11 twos; he was in three and a quarter hours.

Mr Ricketts and the Rev R T Thornton raised the score to 200 at 5 o'clock. Afterwards the three last wickets were captured for an addition of 41. Time 5.40. Mr Blackham kept wicket remarkably well. The Colonials had 10 minutes' batting . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 29 August, page 12)

Even in the comparatively brief time that cricket proved possible at Portsmouth yesterday the weakness in the Universities' attack was apparent. The Australian captain hit very brilliantly, but was out just before rain stopped the game. It will be remembered that Monday was chiefly

occupied by the home innings, the last wicket falling for 243. The score was returned two short on the previous day, two no-balls having been missed by the officials.

Yesterday the United Service Ground proved heavy, owing to the previous night's rain. Messrs Lyons and Ferris, who had scored 22, went on with the colonial batting at 20 minutes past 11. Messrs Currie and Pigg shared the bowling. A smart piece of stumping sent back Mr Ferris in the former's first over, and Mr Bannerman arrived. Mr Lyons, having been missed at point by the Rev R T Thornton, hit vigorous, and the figures reached 44 prior to his dismissal by a catch at slip.

Mr M'Donnell joined Mr Bannerman. He at once showed brilliant batting, his driving being especially clean. Mr Patterson relieved Mr Currie, but two drives for four each by the Australian captain from Mr Pigg brought the 100 on the telegraph board at 12.25. Six runs later Mr A J Thornton superseded Mr Patterson, and subsequently Mr Roe went on. Eventually at 123 Mr M'Donnell was finely caught and bowled for 69. During his stay of an hour 79 runs had been scored and he had made all but ten of them. His chief hits were 11 fours, a three and four twos. Rain then stopped play for the day. The Australians, with seven wickets to fall, are 120 behind.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 August, page 4)

The colonial eleven had distinctly the best of yesterday's cricket at the United Service Ground, Portsmouth. After the rain of the previous day the weather proved fine, but the wicket played rather treacherously. Messrs Bannerman, Edwards and Turner carried off the batting honours of the third day.

Yesterday morning an addition of eight saw Mr Trott stumped, while at 143 Mr Bonnor was caught at mid-off. Mr Edwards stayed while 54 runs were added, but Mr Jones was speedily caught at mid-on. Messrs Turner and Bannerman then put on 88, after which the innings rapidly closed for 298. Mr Bannerman played with his customary care, but Mr Turner hit vigorously.

The Universities, who were 55 behind, went in a second time, and when the game was abandoned they had lost five wickets. Stumps were drawn earlier than usual, so as to allow the Australians to leave for Manchester.

27 August: SUSSEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3402.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 August, page 7)

Yesterday's cricket in the return match between Sussex and Yorkshire proved of a remarkably even character. It is the last county fixture of the season to be played at the Hove Ground, Brighton, so that with the weather fine a good company visited the enclosure. Tester again figured on the home side, while W H Harrison was given a further trial for Yorkshire.

Sussex won the toss and took first innings. They intrusted their early batting to Mr Gresson and Quaiife. Peel and Preston shared the attack. Runs were scored rapidly until at 24 a clever return catch sent back Mr Gresson. Mr Newham, who came in, was soon caught by the wicket-keeper, and two batsmen were out for 39. Jesse Hide quickly played on, while at 41 Quaiife, who had been very lucky, was secured at extra mid-off. Mr Smith and Humphreys were partners while 26 runs were put on. During this time a change took place in the bowling, Preston handing the ball to Middlebrook, who at 67 bowled the Sussex captain. Humphreys lost his wicket through venturesomeness and the score at the interval was 70 for six wickets.

After luncheon Peel and Middlebrook were still the bowlers. Eighteen were added prior to Tester's dismissal, but then the innings rapidly closed; A Hide, Phillips and Tate were all out at 95. Peel had bowled remarkably well. The Sussex innings had lasted two hours and a quarter.

At half-past 3 Lord Hawke and Hall opened the Yorkshire innings to the bowling of A Hide and Mr Smith. Lord Hawke was bowled at 15. Hall and Ulyett made a stand and raised the total to 37, when the former obstructed his wicket. Meantime J Hide and Tate had taken up the bowling. Lee, who came in, played a very fine innings. After Ulyett left he was the only batsman to offer much resistance to the bowling of Mr Smith. He eventually fell to a catch at mid-on for a faultless 44, in which were seven fours, two threes and two twos. With his dismissal the innings closed and stumps were drawn. The Sussex captain had been very successful with the ball.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 29 August, page 12)

In the time practicable for cricket on the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday, the Northern Eleven secured a great advantage. Indeed, unless anything phenomenal transpires to-day, there is little prospect of Sussex saving the game if the weather remains fine. The great feature of yesterday's play was the bowling of Preston. An innings each was got through on Monday, and yesterday Sussex went in a second time with a deficiency of 20 runs.

Rain had fallen during the night and the wickets played treacherously. At 11.35 Jesse Hide and Quaiife were confronted by Peel and Preston. Wickets began to fall rapidly. J Hide was bowled at 17, ten runs later Quaiife was caught at wicket, Mr Smith and Gresson were bowled at 31 and 38, while Humphreys and Mr Newham fell to catches at wicket and Tester was bowled. Seven wickets had fallen for 43. Major and A Hide hit freely for a time and put on 20 runs for the next wicket. Eventually the innings closed for 66. Preston had taken eight wickets, five of them clean bowled. At one time he dismissed four batsmen for two runs. The Sussex venture lasted an hour and three-quarters.

With 47 to obtain for victory Yorkshire sent in Lord Hawke and Hall. These batsmen scored 13 before luncheon, but afterwards rain prevented further play. To-day Yorkshire, with their ten wickets intact, have only 34 to make for victory.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 August, page 4)

Although Yorkshire only wanted 34 to win with ten wickets in hand, the match yesterday at Brighton was productive of an exciting finish. After the heavy rain of the previous day the wicket played treacherously, and in rather more than an hour the brothers Hide captured seven wickets before the task was accomplished. The score subjoined will show that Yorkshire won by three wickets.

27 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/129/129423.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 28 August, page 7)

At Lord's yesterday the Warwickshire eleven met a strong Marylebone team. The home side, who had first innings, lost Mr Allcock and Hearne for 29 runs. Chatterton and Mr Twynam, however, raised the figures to 76 for the third wicket. The sixth wicket fell at 103, but with Davidson and Wootton together another stand was made, and the score travelled to 175. The last few batsmen did little and the innings produced 186. Bird claimed 4 wickets . . .

For Warwickshire Mr Mott and Devey made a capital start, scoring 62 for the first wicket. Then the batsmen left rapidly, and five were out for 98. Shilton was stumped at 107, after which Messrs Stephenson and Smith played out time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 29 August, page 12)

No play was possible in this match at Lord's yesterday. The game was therefore abandoned. Marylebone had scored 186 and Warwickshire 117 for six wickets.

A more perfect contrast between last season and the present can hardly be imagined. Then, the weather was hot and the wickets fast even to fieryness, but this has been so wet and the turf so saturated that run-getting has been difficult and a large proportion of the matches have been spoilt. Indeed, the season has formed a curious satire on the alarm raised by the Cricket Council that something should be done to check the superiority of the bat over the ball. A remark of Mr A J Webbe's, the Middlesex captain, that it only required a wet season to rectify matters has been verified to the letter.

The eight leading counties play an almost complete tournament among themselves, the only exception being that Middlesex does not meet Sussex. It has rarely happened that a county has so decisively asserted its superiority as Surrey has done. Until quite recently they had within their grasp a complete triumph. They had played 11 matches and won them all when they met Lancashire at the Oval.

Earlier the northern county had been beaten by them at Manchester by an innings in a single day. The Lancastrians, however, were fully avenged. Surrey had the match well in hand on the first day; but their unaccountable laxity in the field on the second formed quiet a comic element in the season. It is noticeable that when a few catches have been missed it begets a nervousness which leads to further misfortunes. The match in question furnished a very apt illustration of this; catch after catch was missed, until the spectators became quite jocular about them. In the end Surrey were easily beaten.

Yet their record is one of which the southern county may well be proud. The eleven which they now possess will bear favourable comparison with that which made such a name for them some 20 years back. Their batting has been distributed among several of their team, some of Mr W W Read's most brilliant achievements having been made in other than county matches; his 171 against Sussex was a first-class performance. They include on their side the bowler of the season. Lohmann, who has stepped into the front rank so rapidly, bore the brunt of the bowling. Many people feared that his two Australian visits would have worn him out – the present making the fifth successive season he has been playing. Beaumont and Bowley were also most useful bowlers.

While congratulating themselves on the position attained by Surrey, southern cricketers will hail with no small degree of pleasure the progress made by Kent. Unlike Surrey, the hop county cannot always rely on being able to place their best eleven in the field. This disadvantage they have always, to some extent, laboured under, and which makes their occupying the second place all the more creditable. In an ordinary season they would have had some chance for first honours; but Surrey has eclipsed everything. Kent also play on a variety of grounds in their own county, which, in the opinion of many people, is a great drawback. Mr Patterson's inability to play in all matches was, as his batting in those he did take part in proved, a great loss to his side. The absence of Lord Harris from most of the matches was also severely felt.

The third place goes to the North. Yorkshire, who did far better than they had promised at the outset, are just a fraction below Kent. Peel's batting and bowling and Ulyett's and Hall's batting contributed in a great degree to the position of their county.

It is gratifying to find Gloucestershire, who were eighth (or practically last) in 1887, going into fourth place. Dr W G Grace is still the mainstay of the county; he scored over 900 runs, which is very remarkable, especially in one who has figured so many years in the cricket field.

Lancashire's fortunes have been of a most fluctuating character. Briggs, of course, is the most prominent member of the team, and in addition to carrying off the palm in the bowling he comes second in batting.

Middlesex have shown a slight falling off, and their captain, Mr A J Webbe, in addition to bad luck, has been most unmistakably out of form.

Nottinghamshire have disappointed their admirers, and Shrewsbury's absence is scarcely sufficient to account for their being so low on the list.

Sussex, the county of the Lillywhites, has fallen back into the last position, an inexplicable fact when there are so many good cricketers among them.

SURREY

For the second year in succession the Surrey eleven has secured first place on the list. Until quite recently there seemed every probability of their having an unbeaten record. They have only themselves to blame that they have not achieved this great distinction, for they quite threw away their match with Lancashire by their indifferent fielding.

This was the sole blemish in a most brilliant record. Scarcely in any point could the side have been strengthened. Mr W E Roller's indisposition necessitated his retirement from the team, but Mr Bowden ably filled the vacancy. This gentleman thoroughly recovered his batting form, while his wicket-keeping at times relieved Wood.

The team won its first 11 matches right off; then they lost against Lancashire, won with Yorkshire and drew with Gloucestershire. Their 12 victories were: - Middlesex, Sussex, Kent, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire twice, and one each against Lancashire and Gloucestershire. The eleven generally has every reason to be proud of the record. It is curious with what ease nearly all the matches were won. Six of their victories were gained in a single innings – viz., over Yorkshire (twice), Gloucestershire, Middlesex, Lancashire and Sussex. They gained a ten-wicket victory over Sussex, nine wickets over Nottinghamshire, eight wickets over Kent. What may be termed their comparatively close finishes were Middlesex (three wickets), Kent (89 runs) and Notts (78 runs). These figures furnish some idea of the great superiority with which the team asserted itself. Among the many noteworthy incidents which are recorded by the eleven, two stand out very prominently, viz.: - The match at Manchester, which they won in a day, and their record score of 698 against Sussex, at the Oval.

Mr Walter Read in spite of the wet season takes first place among the batsmen, with an average of a fraction under 40. His great innings of over 300 against Oxford is of course not reckoned in the compilation of the figures, which are strictly confined to the counties. His highest score was 171 against Sussex. Abel played with remarkable consistency throughout the season, and is only two points below Mr Read. Mr Shuter, the captain, played many brilliant innings, and Mr Key, though not so successful as last year, rendered the side invaluable service. Maurice Read comes out better than one was inclined to anticipate, but his last two innings greatly helped him to attain the fifth position with an average of over 30. Lohmann and several of the other batsmen also did very well.

So far as the bowling goes, too much praise cannot be given to Lohmann, whose great achievements

with the ball were continuous from the start. He has taken 142 wickets, and his average of a little under nine speaks for itself. His performances overshadow even such good records as those of Beaumont and Bowley. Except for the instance already mentioned in the match with Lancashire, the fielding was brilliant.

KENT

Kent have a brilliant record. Seven matches were won – Lancashire (twice), Sussex (twice), Middlesex (twice) and Nottinghamshire. They were beaten twice by Gloucestershire and Surrey and once by Yorkshire. The other two contests (Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire) were unfinished.

Although not able to assist his county as often as could be wished, Mr W H Patterson, when he did play, batted very successfully, and seems not to have lost any of that form which he showed when at Oxford a few years ago. His average of 30 is a very fair performance, considering the indifferent state of the wickets at times. Mr C J M Fox, the well-known Association football player, proved of great service to his county, and for 19 innings has an average of 26. In addition to his abilities as a batsman, his fielding was remarkable, many of the catches he made being exceptionally good. In spite of his Parliamentary duties, Lord Harris occasionally found time to play for the Eleven.

The Canterbury Week again formed a striking feature of the season, and proved as attractive as ever. Walter Wright, Martin and A Hearne carried off the bowling honours. Wootton was by no means so successful as formerly. The county programme extends over five grounds – Canterbury, Maidstone, Blackheath, Tonbridge and Gravesend.

YORKSHIRE

With six victories, four losses and four draws, Yorkshire may be said to have had a satisfactory season. The injury sustained by Bates in Australia deprived them of the services of one of their strongest players. Several new men were tried by the committee, of whom Wainwright, Moorhouse and Middlebrook were the most successful. The veteran Emmett seems to have been finally left out of the side.

In eight of the matches Lord Hawke captained the team, but he was not able to give his side much assistance in the way of batting. He is essentially a fast wicket batsman, and to the generally bad state of the turf may be attributed his failure. In 16 innings he was able only to secure an average of seven. Ulyett and Hall both batted well; while Peel showed consistently good all-round form throughout the season. He heads the bowling averages and is third on the batting list. The county was unable to get the same wicket-keeper for the whole of the matches. Hunter injured his hand early, and Yeadon, who seemed likely to prove an able successor, was incapacitated after taking part in two matches.

One of the surprises was that they were twice beaten by Middlesex. Surrey twice defeated them, and these were the four matches lost. Their six victories were over Sussex (twice), Lancashire, Kent, Notts and Gloucestershire. They drew with Kent, Lancashire and Nottinghamshire.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Dr W G Grace is again far in advance of any of the eleven as regards batting. He has scored over 900 runs for an average of more than 37. For the third time during his career he made a century in each innings of a match – viz., against Yorkshire at Clifton. His highest score was 215, and his performances show that he has lost little of his abilities with the bat. In bowling, too, he has materially assisted his side, having taken 47 wickets for an average of 20.

Altogether the eleven has been more successful in its matches than for many seasons past. Last year they figured eighth on the list, but on the present occasion they are fourth. They defeated Kent twice, Middlesex, Nottinghamshire and Sussex once. Their five losses were experienced at the hands of Surrey, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Middlesex and Nottinghamshire. Four games were drawn, viz. – Sussex, Lancashire, Yorkshire and Surrey.

Mr Pullen and Painter are well up in the batting list. The latter owes his position chiefly to his 150 at Lord's against Middlesex. Woof, Dr W G Grace, Roberts and Mr Radcliffe all bowled with success. The team, especially in the latter matches, was very strong. It may be mentioned that two victories were gained over the Australians. Hitherto Gloucestershire had not beaten a colonial eleven.

LANCASHIRE

At one time Lancashire was the only eleven likely to compete closely with Lancashire for the championship. However, they twice suffered defeat at the hands of Kent and once each by Sussex, Yorkshire and Surrey. The last-named loss was most severe, as though Surrey only made 123 Lancashire were beaten in a single innings, and the match was over in one day – an incident of rare occurrence. Their victories were over Surrey at the Oval, Middlesex twice and Gloucestershire once. Their drawn games were with Nottinghamshire (twice) and once each with Yorkshire, Sussex and Gloucestershire.

Mr Eccles's lucky 184 at Kennington raised him high in the averages; indeed, he occupies first place. Then follows Briggs, but the other batsmen are far below. Briggs, Barlow and Watson bowled very effectively and their averages are excellent. Mr A N Hornby again captained the eleven, but Mr A G Steel found no time for county cricket, a fact which was generally regretted by those who are interested in the eleven.

MIDDLESEX

Middlesex opened their programme successfully and drew the last match in their favour. Meanwhile, however, they suffered many reverses. Kent, Surrey and Lancashire beat them twice and Gloucestershire once. On the other hand, they beat Yorkshire twice, Gloucestershire and Nottinghamshire, their final engagement with the last-named was drawn.

Mr A J Webbe, the captain, played very well in several of the games, but his form on the whole was below what he has hitherto shown. Mr O'Brien, who played in half the matches, was by far the most successful batsman. He never got less than 44 runs in a match, and his average of 50 does him great credit. Mr Nepean was second, but he only played four complete innings, so that his average can scarcely be classed with Mr Scott's 24 for 15 innings. There is no other average above 20.

The side chiefly depended on Burton, whose average was exceptionally good, for the bowling. His

performance on the Oval of taking the whole ten wickets against Surrey is an achievement rarely recorded.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Shrewsbury's absence in the colonies proved how much the success of the side in the last few years depended on his batting. Nottinghamshire previous to last year held the leading position among the counties for four continuous seasons. This year they have fallen still lower and are now only seventh. The team did not seem to work so well together as formerly, while the slow wickets did not suit them. Of 14 matches they won three (Sussex twice and Gloucestershire); their six defeats were by Surrey (twice), Middlesex, Kent, Yorkshire and Gloucestershire (once). Both their matches with Lancashire and the return with Kent were drawn.

Last year there were no fewer than seven batsmen with an average of over 20, but in the present case Gunn is the only one who has reached 20. Mr Dixon is second with 19.13. Allowing for the slow wickets, the averages are below what might be expected from the great Midland team. The bowling figures are more favourable, Barnes, Flowers and Richardson being the most successful.

SUSSEX

The record of 12 matches played – one won, nine lost and two drawn – by no means indicates the true form of the Sussex eleven. Several of their matches were productive of close finishes, notably the returns against Kent and Yorkshire. In many contests also they had all the worst of the wicket. Their solitary victory was over Lancashire at Brighton. They were beaten twice by Surrey, Yorkshire, Kent and Nottinghamshire, and once by Gloucestershire.

On the whole the averages come out very well. Mr C A Smith, who captained the eleven, rendered his side good service both with bat and ball. Mr Newham heads the batting list, while Arthur Hide proved the most successful bowler. Considering its composition, the side should have unquestionably have done better. It may be mentioned that some of their matches were productive of very heavy scoring. They had the negative distinction of having the highest first-class score on record made against them, Surrey's 698 at the Oval.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The following table indicates the relative positions of the eight counties, reckoning by the number of victories and counting a third for a drawn game: -

	Matches	Won	Lost	Drawn	Average
Surrey	14	12	1	1	.86
Kent	14	7	5	2	.54
Yorkshire	14	6	4	4	.52
Gloucestershire	14	5	5	4	.45
Lancashire	14	4	5	5	.40
Middlesex	12	4	7	1	.35
Nottinghamshire	14	3	6	5	.33
Sussex	12	1	9	2	.12

30 August: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3043.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 August, page 5)

The third match this season between England and Australia was begun yesterday at Manchester, in the presence of about 12,000 persons.

The composition of the home side was much the same as in the previous match. Dr W G Grace, Mr W W Read, Abel, Lohmann, Briggs, Barnes and Peel have played in all three matches. Gunn did not appear at the Oval, but Sugg and Ulyett both took part in the second match. Pilling, who is still probably the greatest of our wicket-keepers, for the first time this season figures in the representative encounter. Neither Mr A G Steel nor Mr Shuter was able to accept the invitation. Mr Woods, the Cambridge fast bowler, assisted the Colonials, who left out Messrs Jones, Boyle and Jarvis. On the whole, the weather was fair – a gloomy morning and a couple of showers were succeeded by a fine afternoon.

England had distinctly the best of the day's cricket. On a heavy wicket the choice of innings not infrequently carries with it victory. England started badly; Abel and Ulyett were both out for six runs, but Dr Grace and Mr Read by brilliant hitting soon put a different complexion on the game. To have seen the former batting one might have imagined that the wicket was perfectly true, with such ease did he play the bowling. Eventually he was out to an extraordinary catch by Bonnor at long-on from a very good hit. Barnes and Sugg both showed good hitting form, and Pilling and Briggs both made an invaluable stand for the last wicket. Thus for once the Englishmen adopted the correct tactics – viz., of forcing the hitting on heavy turf. With few exceptions the fielding of the Australians was quite in keeping with their reputation. In the short time they were batting the visitors lost two of their most valuable batsmen.

Mr W G Grace won the toss and elected to take first innings, and with Abel opened the English batting. As usual, Messrs Turner and Ferris shared the attack. The bowlers appeared to puzzle the batsmen considerably. Twelve minutes had elapsed from the start and no run had been scored, when Abel was altogether beaten by a good ball from Mr Turner. Dr Grace made a fine square-leg hit for four and a couple in the slips, but then Ulyett, who succeeded Abel, was clean bowled by the first ball sent him. Two for six.

Mr Walter Read, who came in, led off well, hitting his first ball from Mr Turner to the leg boundary. Four overs were now sent down for a bye, after which the run-getting became rapid. Mr Read hit Mr Ferris to leg for three and drove the other bowler straight to the boundary. Dr Grace sent a ball from Mr Turner among the people and then scored five in an over from Mr Ferris. The Gloucestershire captain next hit a bad ball from Mr Ferris to the leg boundary, after which he was nearly run out through a fine return by Mr Bonnor from long on. Forty minutes had produced 36 runs, and the first change in the bowling was then adopted, Mr Woods displacing Mr Ferris. He opened with a maiden, but afterwards the score again travelled at a quick rate. Each batsman obtained a four on the leg side, after which a quick shower stopped the game for five minutes.

On resuming Dr Grace scored ten (two fours and a two) in an over from Mr Woods, thus bringing up the figures to 50 at five minutes past 1. At 58 the separation came, Mr Read being beaten by a ball from Mr Turner. Fifty-two runs had been added during the time the pair were together. Mr Read had played remarkably well. With Barnes in, Mr Ferris resumed bowling. A single came in

five overs, when Dr Grace's excellent innings was closed by a fine catch in the deep field. He drove Mr Turner very hard close to the boundary. Mr Bonnor, fielding at long-on, appeared to misjudge the ball, but he stepped back and secured it high up with his right hand. Dr Grace hit six fours. The game had so far been in progress an hour and ten minutes, and the record was 59 for four wickets.

Sugg and Barnes were now associated. Neither seemed at home with the bowling, and each was beaten several times. Twelve overs were sent down for four runs. Barnes at length enlivened matters by cutting each bowler for two, and subsequently Sugg drove Mr Ferris for four. Mr Woods again displaced the latter at 80, but Sugg drove him to the off boundary, and at the interval the score was 87.

A heavy shower fell during luncheon, but the game was resumed after the usual interval of three-quarters of an hour. Messrs Woods and Turner were again the bowlers. Sugg drove the latter twice for four, the ball in the second instance pitching over the ring. However, at 96 the Lancashire professional had his off stump bowled out of the ground. Five for 96. Gunn joined Barnes. After some quiet play the score, chiefly by the aid of several sharp singles, reached 100 at five minutes past 3. Mr Ferris resumed the attack a dozen runs later, and the alteration proved successful, as with three added Barnes, in playing forward, had his leg stump bowled. He had played a capital innings of 24. Six for 115.

Peel aided Gunn, who drove Mr Turner straight for four and sent the ball in front of short mid-on for a couple. Nothing of note transpired in the next few overs, but at 127 Gunn retired leg before. Seven down. Briggs and Peel ran several sharp singles, which seemed thoroughly to arouse the enthusiasm of the spectators. Peel might have been caught in the long field by Mr Bonnor, who, however, had the bright sun in his eyes. The next ball he swept over Mr Lyons's head at mid-on; but at 135 he obstructed his wicket, and with a single added Lohmann, after nearly losing his wicket in his anxiety to score, ran himself out at the second attempt. Nine for 136.

The last wicket gave the Australians unexpected trouble. Pilling and Briggs both hit vigorously, and the 140 went up at 20 minutes past 4. Afterwards Mr Woods superseded Mr Turner, and at 164 the latter went on at Mr Ferris's end. Meanwhile Pilling among other hits had made a fine on-drive for four. Eight more runs were added, and then Pilling was well caught at long-on, the innings closing at 20 minutes to 5 for 172. Briggs's display, although not faultless, was invaluable, and on his retirement he was loudly applauded. Mr Turner had been the most successful bowler on the Colonial side.

Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman began the Australian innings at 5 o'clock. Peel opened the bowling, his field placed thus: - Lohmann, slip; Mr Read, point; Briggs, cover-point; Dr Grace, mid-off; Barnes, mid-on; Gunn, third man; Pilling, wicket; Abel, long-field-off; Sugg, long-field-on; Ulyett, long-field straight. The field, it will be seen, was placed deep for the Australian captain. An appeal was leg before was answered in the negative, and the first over proved a maiden.

Lohmann was the other bowler, his field being - Abel, slip; Mr Read, point; Briggs, cover-point; Barnes, mid-on; Ulyett, third man; Pilling, wicket; Peel, mid-off; Dr Grace, forward mid-off; Sugg, deep on the leg side, and Gunn, long-on. Good fielding by Dr Grace and Mr Read was loudly applauded. Mr M'Donnell then secured a couple of twos from Peel by bad hits on the off side. Two brilliant drives by him then produced eight, but having scored 15 out of 16, he skied the ball and was caught at mid-off.

Mr Trott, who came next, made a lucky couple on the leg side, and then rain fell heavily. It was a sharp shower and rendered the turf very slippery. After an interval of 20 minutes the game was resumed. Two byes were scored in three overs, and then Mr Trott drove Lohmann to the off boundary and scored a single from the next over. Meanwhile Mr Bannerman was playing with great care. Mr Trott drove Peel to the off for four, but having made 14, he gave a very difficult chance to Abel low down at slip; it would have been a remarkable catch had he made it. In the next over from Peel, Mr Bannerman had his leg stump bowled out of the ground. Stumps were then drawn and, with eight wickets in hand, the Australians require 61 to save the follow on.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 September, page 10)

England gained a brilliant victory over the Australians at Manchester yesterday. By this success they have distinctly reasserted their superiority on the cricket field and have restored their prestige, so severely injured at Lord's earlier in the season.

It has been frequently noticed that on a bad wicket the winning of the toss often means the winning of the match, but there can have been few better illustrations of the truth of the observation than the game played at Old Trafford during the last two days. The Englishmen made their runs with the wicket comparatively easy. On the other hand, the Colonials had to go in on turf that became more treacherous every minute. True there was one sharp shower on Thursday evening; but its effects quickly disappeared, and yesterday the turf rendered the bowlers more assistance than ever.

Peel and Lohmann got the visitors out rapidly, although towards the end of the first innings Messrs Lyons and Blackham batted so well that there appeared a good chance of the Australians averting the follow-on. But this they failed to do by a dozen runs.

In their second innings the cricket was almost sensational in its character. Two batsmen were out without scoring, and only a leg-bye had been recorded when the third man fell. It was in vain that Mr M'Donnell altered his "order," for six wickets were down for seven. Another should have fallen directly, as Mr Read might easily have caught Mr Lyons. Letting this opportunity escape cost the side a large number of runs. Messrs Turner and Lyons hit brilliantly and carried the score to 55. But then the end soon arrived.

Mr Lyons in both innings showed form which surprised every one. Hitherto his career in England had not been altogether a success, and his achievement in this game must stamp him as a good cricketer. While he and Mr Turner were together the scoring was faster than at any other time in the match.

Peel's bowling was one of the features of the day. He appeared to find a pitch which just suited him, and his 11 wickets cost an average of only six runs each. With the fielding there was no fault to find, except in the solitary instance of Mr Read's mistake. Dr Grace's catch which sent back Mr Edwards was remarkable, and should silence the criticism sometimes heard that the veteran is no longer able to get down to the ball as of old.

In itself the score is a curiosity. On the Australian side there were ten individual innings marked with the ignominious duck's egg, while Messrs Turner and Lyons towards the second venture contributed 53. The weather being very fine, a large company visited the ground.

The drawing of stumps on Thursday night had left the advantage with England, who having scored

172 had disposed of two of the most dangerous of their opponents for 32. Mr Trott, the not out, with 14, was joined by Mr Bonnor at a quarter past 11. The hot sun during the morning had by no means improved the wicket, and the bowlers (Lohmann and Peel) were difficult to play. Five maidens were sent down and then Mr Trott got Lohmann to leg for three. From the third ball of the next over, however, he was cleverly stumped. Three for 35.

Mr Edwards arrived, but his stay was brief. Mr Bonnor drove a ball from Lohmann outside the ring in front of the ladies' stand, and then Peel with the last two deliveries of the following over sent back Mr Edwards and Mr Turner, neither of whom had scored. Five for 39. The game had been in progress only 20 minutes, yet in this time three wickets had fallen for seven runs. Mr Woods joined Mr Bonnor, and Briggs at once relieved Lohmann. Three maidens were succeeded by four singles, and then Mr Bonnor was dismissed. Several sharp runs had been made, but this time Ulyett, who was fielding at mid-on, threw the wicket down; Mr Bonnor had proved no match for his companion in running from crease to crease. Six for 43. Mr Blackham followed in. Another batsman then left, Mr Woods being out to a well-judged catch by Mr Read running in from long-off. Seven for 45.

Mr Lyons aided Mr Blackham. After a couple of maidens Mr Lyons secured a single, and his partner placed Peel to square-leg for two. A little later Mr Blackham sent the same bowler to the on-boundary, bringing up 59 at ten minutes to 12. Lyons then drove Briggs for two and four, the ball in the second instance pitching on to the seats in the pavilion. With his score at seven Mr Blackham gave a hard chance to Mr Read at point, after which Mr Lyons again drove Briggs for two and four, the ball a second time falling a long way over the ring.

The fast rate of scoring caused Dr Grace to put on Lohmann for Briggs at 65. Mr Blackham, however, cut him for three, while two other hits were made in the same over. Mr Lyons continued to play very well; he scored seven in two overs, but at 81, in hitting round to leg, he sent a ball from Peel into the hands of Lohmann at slip. He had made 22 by capital cricket, while the partnership had yielded 36 in 20 minutes.

Twelve runs were now required to save the follow on, and with two wickets in hand it was generally thought that the task would be accomplished. In the course of four overs, however, Mr Blackham was well caught at point and Mr Worrall had his last season bowled out of the ground. The last three wickets had fallen at the same total – 81 – and the innings closed at 12.20. Peel had a remarkable bowling analysis, his seven wickets having been taken for a fraction over four runs each.

With 91 runs to obtain to prevent the innings defeat the Australians followed on at a quarter to 1. Peel and Lohmann had charge of the bowling, but at opposite ends to those at which they had bowled in the previous innings. Messrs Bannerman and M'Donnell were the batsmen. From the first ball delivered the former was easily taken by Dr Grace at short mid-off. Mr Trott arrived, but Lohmann immediately bowled the Australian captain with his first ball, which kept very low and took the leg stump. Thus two wickets were down and no run yet scored. With Mr Bonnor in a leg-bye was obtained, but then the new-comer fell to an easy catch at short mid-off. Three for one.

Misfortunes did not end here for the Colonials, as after Messrs Blackham and Trott had been companions for a few minutes, during which time the former had scored five, Mr Trott was run out in going for a second time for a hit by Mr Blackham. Abel threw the ball smartly in from the long field and Lohmann put the wicket down. Four for seven. With the next two balls of the same over Lohmann dismissed Messrs Blackham and Woods, making six wickets down for seven runs.

Mr Turner, who joined Mr Lyons at this point, prevented Lohmann performing the hat trick by placing his next ball to leg for two. Up to the fall of the sixth wicket Lohmann had sent down four overs (three maidens) for three runs and three wickets. Mr Read, at point, badly missed Mr Lyons before he had made a single. This proved an expensive mistake. Mr Lyons showed his appreciation of the escape by cutting Peel's next ball to the boundary. Mr Turner also hit in brilliant style. In the next over from Lohmann he obtained a couple of fours on the leg side and two by a drive. Subsequently each batsman scored two by a drive. Excellent fielding by Lohmann, Sugg and Gunn now aroused much enthusiasm. Mr Lyons scored eight in four hits, and so far the air had obtained 30 in a quarter of an hour. With the figures at 39 Briggs superseded Lohmann, and the change eventually proved successful, but not until 16 runs had been added, which included a leg hit and an off-drive by Mr Turner from Peel and a leg hit for two by Mr Lyons. Fifteen had been signalled at half-past 1. At 55, however, Briggs bowled down Mr Turner's leg stump. He had hit with freedom, and in his 26 were four fours and three twos. The stand had produced 48 runs in half an hour. Seven for 55.

Mr Edwards, having made a single, was splendidly caught by Dr Grace, who ran in from short mid-off and took the ball with his left hand close to the ground. Eight for 56. Mr Ferris arrived. Chiefly by the efforts of Mr Lyons, who made four and two, 14 runs were added, and then Mr Ferris was easily taken at slip from a ball which got up from the pitch and went off the shoulder of his bat. Without alteration in the figures Briggs bowled Mr Lyons, which closed the innings and gave England the victory. Mr Lyons's excellent 32 included two fours, a three and eight twos.

At the end of the game a rush was made for the pavilion, where there were loud cries for Dr Grace and Peel, who were heartily cheered on their appearance at the window. The subjoined score will show that England won by an innings and 21 runs.

30 August: SURREY v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128249.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 August, page 5)

Heavy downpours of rain fell at intervals yesterday at Kennington Oval. Although at one time the weather had sufficiently cleared for the captains to toss for choice of innings, which Essex won, a heavy shower caused a postponement to be made until this morning at 11 o'clock.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 September, page 10)

The prevention by rain of a start being made in this match at the Oval on Thursday was compensated for in some measure by a fine day yesterday. Essex, who had been successful in the toss, proceeded to the wickets at 11 o'clock. Messrs Owen and Sewell were opposed by Beaumont and Osman.

When three runs only had been scored two batsmen were disposed of in the same manner – Messrs Sewell and Boyton caught at cover-point. Burns joined Mr Owens, and runs came at a very slow rate. At twenty-six, after having taken more than an hour to obtain, Burns was caught at long-slip. Mr Buxton arrived, and Mr Owen made a hit to square leg for four. A fine catch at point dismissed Mr Buxton. Mr Ruggles-Brise and Mr Owen infused some spirit into the game. The total was advanced to 69 when the latter was clean bowled; his patient innings had occupied an hour and 50 minutes. Mr Ruggles-Brise was caught at slip and Mr Burrell was clean bowled. Seven for 77. Mr Rowe, Littlewood and Mr Fowler batted well, and the last three wickets put on 40 runs. Total 117.

Although three of the most prominent members of the home eleven were taking part in the Manchester match, Surrey were still able to put a powerful team into the field. They started their batting at a quarter to 3 with Mr Bowden and Henderson. Messrs Bishop and Fowler were the early bowlers. When he had made five, the professional escaped at the hands of Mr Ruggles-Brise at deep square-leg. His play then improved, while Mr Bowden hit with great freedom. The bowling was twice changed before the latter's innings was closed by a neat piece of stumping; among his hits were three fours, three threes and 11 twos.

Colman, who played well, was at the wickets three-quarters of an hour for his 19. Mr Key hit vigorously, and had kept his wicket intact when stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 3 September, page 7)

An interesting day's cricket was witnessed at Kennington Oval on Saturday when these counties brought their return match to a close. On the previous evening Surrey held a decided advantage, for while their opponents had completed an innings for 117, they had scored 200 with only seven wickets down. Mr Key (the not-out with 46) was accompanied to the wickets by Beaumont. Messrs Burrell and Bishop were the bowlers.

With the addition of five runs only a catch at point dismissed Beaumont, while Bowley, who followed, was smartly stumped. Osman was soon bowled, the last wicket falling for 220. Mr Key's excellent not-out innings included five fours, four threes and six twos.

Essex now had the heavy deficiency of 103, and began their second innings with Messrs Owen and Boyton. The early bowlers were Beaumont and Henderson. Mr Owen at once started hitting with great freedom. The score quickly reached 34, when Bowley relieved Henderson. The change at once took effect, Mr Boyton, who had played carefully, being clean bowled. Mr Sewell, who was next man in, gave a difficult return chance to Bowley. With the score at 45 Mr Owens was clean bowled, having batted in good style. Burns joined Mr Sewell. Twenty-four runs having been put on, Burns was secured at the wicket. Three for 69.

Messrs Buxton and Sewell became partners. The latter cut Bowley for four, and at 80 Osman was tried. Mr Buxton had an escape at the hands of Bowley at mid-off when he had made seven. A catch at wicket brought Mr Sewell's useful innings to a close at 92. Mr Rowe next came to the assistance of Mr Buxton, and the 100 was signalled a little before 2 o'clock. Osman now handed the ball to Maurice Read. The total was advanced to 154 before the fifth wicket fell. The innings closed for 202.

Surrey wanted exactly 100 runs to win, and at a quarter past 4 sent in Mr Bowden and Henderson. Messrs Bishop and Burrell were the bowlers. The score was taken to 23 before the dismissal of Henderson. Mr Trouncer succeeded him. Mr Bowden monopolized the run-getting, and before being bowled had put together 60; these were made without a chance and comprised seven fours, seven threes and seven twos. At the fall of the fourth wicket only a dozen runs were required for victory. These were obtained by Read and Mr Key, and Essex were thus defeated by six wickets.

30 August: THE SCARBOROUGH FESTIVAL

GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND v I ZINGARI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3404.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 August, page 5)

Yesterday this annual festival opened with a match between I Zingari and the Gentlemen of England. The latter included Mr F R Spofforth, the Australian “demon” bowler, who lately arrived in England. Beyond a shower before play began there was no rain, but the weather was very cold during the afternoon.

I Zingari went in first, but started badly, four wickets falling to Mr Spofforth for 15 runs. Lord Hawke, Mr Hadow, Mr A J Webbe and Mr H F de Paravicini, however, hit freely, and the total ultimately reached 135, the Middlesex captain making the highest score. The Gentlemen of England went in, the most notable feature of their innings being a hit by Mr Ford which sent the ball out of the ground.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 September, page 10)

The match between I Zingari and Gentlemen of England, the first in the programme of the Scarborough Festival, was concluded yesterday. At the drawing of stumps on Thursday evening each side had completed an innings.

At 10 minutes past 12 the Zingari, with 36 runs in hand, started their second venture. Mr Spofforth took the first three wickets. Mr Hadow, who went in first wicket down, saw the dismissal of four of his companions. He was then caught at cover-point at 137. Among his hits were a brilliant drive out of the field for six, nine fours, two threes and seven twos. Mr Webbe also batted admirably, and assisted in adding 79 while he was in. The last wicket fell for 171.

The Gentlemen now required 208 for victory. Mr Thornton, who had been struck on the finger the previous day, was unable to bat. Mr Forster’s bowling proved irresistible, and the Zingari ultimately won by 109 runs. A scratch match is arranged for to-day.

3 September: ENGLAND XI v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3405.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 4 September, page 6)

With such well-known cricketers as Mr Daft, Attewell, Flowers, Scotton, Barlow, Briggs, Pilling, F Hearne and Sugg in the home side, the Colonials had arrayed against them a very strong England eleven at Harrogate yesterday. Messrs Jones and Boyle were absent from the Australian team. The wicket gave the bowlers much assistance, as may be gleaned from the meagre scores. Fine weather was experienced, and a numerous company visited the ground.

Mr M'Donnell won the toss and went in first with Mr Bannerman. Briggs and Attewell conducted the bowling. The Australian captain made a couple of fours and a single, and was then caught at mid-off from a very hard drive. Messrs Trott and Bannerman, however, improved matters, the latter being content to play patiently while his companion hit. Mr Trott, among other items, obtained six by a drive, but at 36 he skied the ball to mid-off. He had made the whole 27 which had been added.

The Australians' misfortunes now began in earnest. Mr Bonnor, after being missed by Dr Watson at long-off, was secured in the deep field, while Mr Lyons returned the ball and Mr Edwards was caught at wicket, making half the batsmen out for 40. Mr Turner joined Mr Bannerman, who scored for the first time, when he had been in nearly an hour, by driving Briggs to the boundary. Fifty went up at a quarter past 1. Mr Turner was soon caught at point, while at 67 a catch at long-on sent back Mr Blackham. At 70 the last three wickets were captured – Mr Jarvis bowled; Mr Bannerman run out; and Mr Worrall caught at wicket. Time, 3 o'clock. Briggs and Attewell had bowled unchanged.

Against the attacks of Messrs Turner and Ferris the Englishmen started badly. Mr Turner dismissed Sugg at three, and with the figures doubled Hearne was caught at slip. Flowers and Barlow stayed together until the total had reached 27, when the former had his leg stump bowled down. At 36 Barlow obstructed his wicket, and a single later Mr Daft was out in the same way. Five for 37.

Briggs and Scotton added 15, but the former with Attewell made a most determined stand. After Briggs had been missed the Australian total was passed at a quarter to 5. Mr Worrall at 82 displaced Mr Ferris, and at 93 he got Briggs caught at slip. Forty-one runs had been put on during the partnership. The last three wickets added 18, and at 5.25 the venture closed for 111. In a minority of 41, the Colonials began their second venture with Messrs Worrall and Ferris.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 September, page 7)

After a lapse of nearly a month the Australian Eleven has again won a match. Of late they had been far from successful, and their last victory was over Kent – the first fixture of the Canterbury week. Yesterday at Harrogate they played an uphill game with great determination, for on Monday the Englishmen secured a considerable advantage in obtaining a lead of 41 on the first innings.

The concluding day's play furnished cricket of a fluctuating character, and the interest in the game remained until the finish. When the home side went in a second time the turf was much worse than during the earlier part of the day, and Messrs Turner and Ferris both bowled with great effect. At

the end of Monday the Colonials were 30 runs behind with ten wickets to fall.

Play was resumed at five minutes past 12, Messrs Worrall and Ferris, the not-outs, facing the attacks of Briggs and Attewell. The figures travelled to 26, when a catch at slip sent back Mr Ferris. Mr Bannerman joined Mr Worrall, who hit so freely that at 42 Flowers displaced Briggs. The deficit had, of course, been hit off, so that the game was now in an even state, for the Colonials still had nine wickets to fall.

Now the visitors' misfortunes began. With only five added Mr Worrall was run out, and a single later a catch in the long-field got rid of Mr M'Donnell. Mr Trott came next, and the 50 was soon reached. But at 53 the new batsman was caught at mid-on, while an addition of eight saw Mr Bonnor caught at long-off. Five for 61. Thus in the course of a few overs the character of the game had materially changed.

Messrs Lyons and Bannerman, however, improved matters. Considerable enthusiasm was aroused by Mr Bannerman hitting Attewell to square leg out of the ground for six. It was half-past 1 when the 100 went up. Afterwards Barlow and Briggs were put on to bowl, yet 48 had been added during the partnership when Mr Lyons was caught at point. He had played good cricket. Six for 109.

After the interval Mr Blackham was caught at point without alteration in the score. With Mr Turner and Mr Bannerman companions, however, another stand was made. Flowers relieved Briggs at 137, and later Barlow superseded Attewell. At 154 Mr Turner, who had assisted in adding 45, was caught at long-on. Then the innings came to a rapid close, Mr Edwards being taken at point and Mr Jarvis bowled. Total 168. Mr Bannerman had shown his customary patience, having been in two hours and a half for his 39.

The Englishmen, who required 128 runs for victory, sent in Barlow and Sugg to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Ferris. When he had made two Barlow gave the Australian captain a difficult chance at cover-point. Runs were then scored rapidly by Sugg, who hit Mr Turner to square leg for six and four and also cut him to the boundary. He had made 18 out of 27 when he was clean bowled.

Wickets now fell rapidly. Barlow was caught and bowled and Briggs run out; at 32 Attewell was bowled, and four runs later Scotton and Flowers left – caught respectively at point and wicket. Six for 36. Dr Watson temporarily retired in consequence of a ball striking him in the face. Hearne and Mr Daft then raised the total to 53, when at catch at slip disposed of the former, while after Dr Watson had been bowled, Mr Daft was caught at wicket at 60. Pilling and Littlewood added 11 before the latter was caught at mid-off, and the innings closed for 71. Thus the Australians gained the victory by 56 runs.

3 September: YORKSHIRE v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3406.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 4 September, page 6)

Marylebone were well represented at Scarborough yesterday, especially in batting. On the Yorkshire side places were found for Mr H Leadbeater and D Hunter, both local players, while the veteran Emmett again appeared for his county. The weather proved delightfully fine until late in the afternoon, when it became a little dull. There had been a lot of rain, which so saturated the turf that play was impracticable before half-past 1.

Lord Hawke, who won the toss, opened the Yorkshire batting with Hall. The bowling was shared by Mr Forster and A Hearne. With the figures at 16 Lord Hawke hit his wicket, while the addition of 13 saw Ulyett stumped. Two for 29. After luncheon Mr Leadbeater and Hall were opposed by the same bowlers. The score rose rapidly, Hall hitting much more freely than usual. Fifty soon went up, and then a two-fold change in the attack was tried, Barnes and Dr Grace going on. As a separation was not thereby effected Hearne resumed on 66, after which Hall, when he had made 28, was let off at square leg by Mr Paravicini. At length Mr Leadbeater was bowled. The partnership had realized 51 runs.

Lee joined Hall, who was bowled at 95. The latter had been in an hour and three-quarters and had played very vigorously. Subsequently Lee, when well set, was run out, and Peel left at 142. Free batting by Wainwright and Wade followed, and the pair had put on 37 when the former was bowled. Stumps were then drawn.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 September, page 7)

The second day of the Marylebone v Yorkshire match furnished most interesting cricket. Before the contest began on Monday it had been arranged, if necessary, to have a fresh wicket after the first innings. This idea was adopted yesterday when the visitors went in; but the turf was still very heavy. It will be remembered that Monday was occupied by the county scoring 179 for the loss of seven wickets.

Wade, the not-out with 28, and Preston continued batting at ten minutes past 12. Barnes and A Hearne had charge of the bowling. Runs were added steadily, but after Wade's dismissal the venture rapidly closed for 207 at 1 o'clock.

Dr Grace and Mr Kemp began the Marylebone innings to the attacks of Peel and Preston. The batsmen scored rapidly until at 30 Mr Kemp was caught at wicket, while five runs later a catch at point disposed of Dr Grace. Two for 35. After luncheon Marylebone's prospect did not improve. At 44 Peel bowled Mr Hadow, and a single later he got Barnes caught at cover-point, while at 46 Mr O'Brien obstructed his wicket. Thus half the batsmen were out. Still the bowlers triumphed. Mr Vernon was caught at third man at 49, and after the 50 had gone up Mr de Paravicini fell to a catch in the long field. Although 30 were made with only a wicket down seven batsmen had now been dismissed for 53.

Mr Forster and Gunn made a stand. At 77 Wade superseded Preston, and at 84 Peel gave way to Emmett. The former eventually bowled Mr Forster, but not until 45 runs had been added. Eight for

98. Gunn left at 102, and 26 were still wanted to prevent to follow on, when A Hearne joined Mr Thornton. The former played with great care, but Mr Thornton hit with all his old brilliancy. Before Hearne scored the follow on was avoided. Mr Thornton continued to bat with vigour, and the figures stood at 155 when the innings was closed by the bowling of A Hearne. Mr Thornton had made five fours, one three and eight twos.

Yorkshire, who were 52 ahead, went in a second time. Lord Hawke failed, but Hall and Ulyett played out time.

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

Yesterday's cricket at Scarborough proved of a thoroughly interesting nature. With few exceptions, the bowlers had the advantage, Preston towards the end of the day accomplishing a remarkable performance. After some brilliant hitting by Messrs Thornton and O'Brien he dismissed the Marylebone batsmen in rapid succession and took altogether nine wickets for 28 runs. The weather held fine and there was a numerous company present. When play ceased on Thursday night each side had completed an innings, and Yorkshire, having gone in again with a lead of 52, had lost one wicket (Lord Hawke's) for nine runs.

Ulyett and Hall, the not-outs, continued the home batting, and were faced by A Hearne and Barnes. The former bowled Ulyett at 13, and four runs later Barnes dismissed Mr Leadbeater. Lee and Hall kept together some time. Mr Forster at 33 received the ball from Hearne, and Mr Hadow at 38 displaced Barnes. Three runs later a catch at cover-point sent back Hall. Wickets then fell rapidly. Lee left caught at slip at 66, and eventually seven batsmen were out for 76. Afterwards Hunter played successfully, and at luncheon the figures were 82. On resuming, Dr Grace speedily finished off the innings, which ended at a quarter to 4; total 100. Dr Grace's three wickets cost seven runs.

Marylebone had 153 to obtain for victory, but only two hours remained for cricket. However, they made a determined attempt to accomplish the task. The start was bad, for Dr Grace fell to mid-on when only three runs were scored. Messrs O'Brien and Thornton then hit brilliantly. Peel, who opened the bowling with Preston, was very freely hit. Mr Thornton was out at 38, but Mr O'Brien stayed until 50 had gone up after 25 minutes' play, Peel in the meantime having given way to Emmett.

After Mr O'Brien's dismissal the batsmen left quickly; the last seven wickets added only 33 runs, and within a quarter of an hour of "time" Yorkshire won the match by 60 runs. It will be seen from the analysis of the bowling that Peel bowled nine overs, four maidens, for 40 runs.

3 September: SURREY v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128250.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 4 September, page 6)

The Derbyshire Eleven paid their annual visit to the Oval yesterday, when they opened their return match with Surrey. Mr Shuter was still absent from the home side, which was otherwise thoroughly representative. Derbyshire had the assistance of the Messrs Evershed. Though dull at times, the weather kept fine, and a numerous company assembled on the Clayton-street side of the ground, the wickets being fixed very near that part. The turf itself was heavy, and of course accounted for the slow scoring.

Derbyshire won the toss and took first innings. Sugg and Ratcliffe opened the batting shortly after noon to the bowling of Lohmann and Beaumont. The former had the second ball he sent Sugg returned to him, while only a couple of runs were recorded when Ratcliffe lost his wicket through venturesomeness. This did not end Derbyshire's misfortunes, for at eight Cropper was run out. Three down. Chatterton and Davidson slightly improved matters and added 16 before the former was bowled. Mr S H Evershed came next. Runs were added steadily, and although Lohmann gave way to Bowley 50 was reached at half-past 1. A couple of runs later Mr Evershed was caught at wicket. With Mr Walker in Lohmann resumed bowling; yet at luncheon 72 had been reached and no further wicket down.

Afterwards, however, the last five batsmen were got rid of for an addition of 17. Directly on resuming Mr Walker was stumped and Mr E Evershed bowled, and at 78 Hall was run out. Davidson, who had played with great care, was caught at slip at 80, and nine runs later Disney returned the ball. Time, 3.25; total, 89.

Surrey started badly, losing Mr Bowden, clean bowled, from the second ball of the innings. Abel was finely caught at short-leg, and two wickets were down for eight. Mr W W Read and his namesake quickly added 14 runs, when the former fell to mid-off and the latter was stumped. Lohmann was caught at short slip from the second ball sent him. All three wickets had fallen at 22. Henderson, however, quickly hit Hall over the leg boundary for four, while Mr Key gained the same number by a cut. The batsmen continued their vigorous hitting, and 50 was reached at a quarter to 5. Shortly afterwards a twofold change in the bowling was tried, Mr Walker and Cropper going on. Yet the batting triumphed until 62 had been added, when Mr Key was easily caught at mid-on. He had played excellent cricket for his 43, which included five fours, three threes and six twos. Six for 84.

Mr Trouncer arrived. After some quiet play 11 runs were put on, and then Chatterton relieved Cropper. With his second ball the new bowler got Mr Trouncer caught at wicket, but Wood, who came next, soon drove him for three, bringing up the 100 at five minutes to 6. Henderson, having made 26, gave a chance to Hulme at slip. Stumps were eventually drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 September, page 7)

Under the influence of the hot sun the wicket at the Oval yesterday became very treacherous and the bowlers carried all before them. The lead secured by the home county on the first innings proved invaluable as a glance at their second score will prove. When play ceased on Monday evening

Derbyshire had completed an innings for 82, while seven Surrey wickets were down for 104.

Shortly after 11 o'clock the game was resumed, Henderson (26) and Wood (7), the not-outs, being confronted by Chatterton and Hulme. With ten runs added Henderson left – caught at wicket – and eight were down. Beaumont joined Wood, who gained three fours in as many overs by a drive, a cut and a square-leg hit. This fast scoring brought on Hall at 126, while at 131 Hulme crossed over. A couple of runs later, however, the former got Beaumont caught at point and clean bowled Bowley, the innings closing at ten minutes to 12 for 133. Wood played very well for 27, not out.

Requiring 44 to save the innings defeat, Derbyshire sent in Ratcliffe and Sugg. Lohmann and Bowley shared the attack. The start was bad, for with only a single recorded Ratcliffe and Cropper were both caught at extra sip. When Chatterton and Sugg became partners matters slightly improved. After the latter had been missed by Mr Trouncer in the long field each batsman obtained four by a drive. At 20, however, Sugg skied the ball into cover-point's hands. Davidson stayed while 10 were added and was then run out, while at 34 the fifth wicket fell, Chatterton being caught at short-leg.

Mr S H Evershed and Mr Walker were now partners. The former was soon bowled, but when his brother arrived the innings defeat was averted, and at a quarter past 1, 50 went up. A catch at slip then sent back Mr Walker, while a dozen runs later a good ball from Lohmann dismissed Mr E Evershed. Hulme was run out and hall caught and bowled; the last three wickets had fallen at the same total – 62. Beaumont and Lohmann had bowled unchanged.

With 19 to obtain for victory Surrey sent in Bowley and Mr Bowden, who were confronted by Hall and Hulme. Mr Bowden made a cut for four and was then bowled. Abel joined Bowley, who, having obtained four by a drive, returned the ball. Abel was soon caught at wicket and three batsmen were out for 15. Read then obtained the necessary runs and Surrey won by seven wickets.

6 September: LORD LONDESBOROUGH'S ELEVEN v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3407.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 September, page 6)

With no other cricket in progress Lord Londesborough was able to get a very powerful side to play against the Australians. No fewer than nine members had assisted in the defeat of the Colonials a week since at Old Trafford, while Mr Read and Sugg were succeeded by such able cricketers as Lord Harris and Mr C I Thornton. Thus while the side had undergone little alteration in its defence, the attack remained as strong as at Manchester. Mr S P Jones reappeared in the Colonial eleven, from which Messrs Jarvis and Boyle stood out. The match is the last of the Scarborough Festival, and the weather being fine, there was a large company present.

Some disappointment was felt at Dr Grace's comparative batting failure. Of course, the recent rain had left the turf in favour of the bowlers, some of whom were seen to considerable advantage. At a time when there seemed some probability of the Englishmen getting out for a meagre score, the only two Notts men in the team – Gunn and Barnes – came to the aid of their side with a determined stand, while later in the afternoon there was free hitting by Briggs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 September, page 10)

Extraordinary cricket has been a frequent occurrence this season. However, yesterday's play at Scarborough must certainly rank among the most remarkable events of the summer. In the Colonial innings 90 went up with only two wickets down; yet the whole side was out for 96. When there was every appearance of the Australians securing a considerable advantage the batting collapsed, and the Englishmen had distinctly the better of the day's play. The bowlers were much assisted by the condition of the wicket, Mr Turner late in the afternoon being especially effective. After the rain in the morning the weather cleared, and the company was again large.

Overnight Lord Londesborough's side had completed their first venture for 163, while for the loss of one wicket (Mr M'Donnell's) the Colonials had made 53. In consequence of the wet, play was not resumed until a quarter to 1, when Messrs Bannerman and Trott, the not-outs with 16 and 19, were opposed by Peel and Lohmann. The play at first was quiet. Subsequently Mr Trott cut Lohmann to the boundary, but at 61 a clever catch by Dr Grace low down at point sent him back. Two for 61.

Mr Bonnor arrived. He soon grew busy, driving Lohmann twice for four and cutting the other bowler for three. Briggs took the ball at 76. After Mr Bannerman had been nearly run out the figures rapidly reached 90, when both batsmen were dismissed. Mr Bonnor was finely caught at long-off, while Mr Bannerman was bowled. The interval was now taken, four wickets being down for 90.

After luncheon Briggs and Peel again had charge of the bowling. Without addition to the score Mr Lyons was caught at long-off; Mr Turner obstructed his wicket and Mr Jones was secured at mid-off. Thus all five wickets had fallen at the same total – 90. Mr Blackham was caught at point at 95, and a single later Mr Worrall fell to a catch in the long-field and Mr Edwards was bowled. Practically the last eight wickets had fallen for half-a-dozen runs. After luncheon the innings only lasted 25 minutes and was over at a quarter to 4 for 96. The collapse of the Australians seemed to

cause quite a sensation among the spectators.

With an advantage of 67 the Englishmen entered on their second venture. Mr Thornton and Abel opened the batting, while Messrs Turner and Ferris entered the attack. Before a run had been made Mr Thornton was bowled by the second ball sent him. Dr Grace and Abel, however, improved matters. Abel, after a narrow escape of being run out, hit Mr Turner twice to square-leg for four, and the total stood at 25 when that bowler dismissed him. Barnes quickly joined Dr Grace, who played with great freedom. Besides several twos and threes the Gloucestershire captain scored a four to square-leg from Mr Turner. At 42 a variation in the attack was tried, Mr Lyons superseding Mr Ferris. With his first ball he clean bowled Barnes.

Gunn came next. He speedily sent Mr Lyons to the square-leg boundary, while his companion later on made a like hit. At 68, however, Dr Grace, who had played in quite his old form, was well taken at square-leg. Lord Harris was bowled without scoring and Ulyett came in. Previously Mr Ferris had relieved Mr Lyons. The figures took little time to reach 85, and then Gunn was bowled. Thirteen runs later Ulyett left, but with Briggs and Lohmann together the 100 was reached at 5.25. Runs were still scored rapidly, but at 122 Lohmann was secured in the deep field, and seven runs later Briggs obstructed his wicket. Peel and Pilling kept up their wickets till the call of "time," when the Englishmen with a wicket in hand were 202 runs ahead.

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

Allowing for the treacherous state of the turf, it was certainly expected that the Colonials would give a better batting display than their second innings produced on Saturday. Overnight the game was left much in favour of the Englishmen, who were then 202 runs ahead with a wicket in hand.

The not outs, Peel and Pilling, with three and six, were opposed on Saturday morning by Messrs Turner and Ferris. Ten runs were obtained in a quarter of an hour, and then the dismissal of Pilling closed the venture at a quarter past 12 for 145. Mr Turner had bowled throughout the innings with great success, taking eight wickets (six bowled) at an average cost of nine runs each.

At 20 minutes to 1 the Colonials entered on their formidable task of obtaining 213 for victory. Indeed, the wicket had become so bad that there was little prospect of their getting this number. Yet the collapse of their batting was startling and caused great disappointment. Against the bowling of Peel and Briggs Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman began the innings. The Australian captain opened the score with several good hits, but in quick succession Mr Bannerman was bowled, Mr Trott obstructed his wicket, Mr M'Donnell was bowled and Mr Jones was stumped. Thus four wickets were down for 12 runs.

Messrs Lyons and Bonnor made a slight attempt to save the game. With 15 added, however, Mr Lyons fell to a ball from Briggs, and half the wickets were lost for 27. Mr Bonnor, who proved the solitary batsman to secure double figures, was dismissed by a brilliant catch at long-off, while Mr Turner left at 40. An addition of 17 saw the dismissal of the rest of the side, and shortly before 2 o'clock England won by 155 runs.

The home side played splendidly throughout, and their batting on the false wicket was creditable. Their easy victory, however, was due in a great measure to the superb bowling of Briggs, who in the double innings secured 13 wickets at an average cost of three runs. This match brought one of the most successful festivals ever held to a close, although matters would have been more enjoyable

had the weather proved a little warmer.

10 September: A SHREWSBURY'S AUSTRALIAN TEAM v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3408.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 September, page 7)

Yesterday the match between the Australians and the team which made a tour in the colonies last winter under the captaincy of Shrewsbury was to have begun at Leeds. Rain fell heavily during the morning and rendered the ground unfit for cricket. A start will be made if possible to-day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 12 September, page 7)

After the heavy rain of Monday the Holbeck ground at Leeds was yesterday in anything but a condition for run-getting. A start was made at 20 minutes past 12, when the Australians, who had won the toss, sent in Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman. Lohmann and Briggs shared the bowling.

Four runs were made in two overs, and then the colonial captain was beaten by a ball from Lohmann. Mr Trott arrived, but after the figures had slowly reached 10 he lost the company of Mr Bannerman, caught at wicket. Two down. Mr Bonnor came next, but at 21 a catch at mid-on sent him back, while an addition of two saw Mr Jones caught at wicket. Four for 23. Messrs Lyons and Trott then became partners. Both gentlemen scored freely, especially from Briggs, who at 43 gave way to Preston. However, no further wicket fell before the interval, when the figures stood at 47.

Rain extended luncheon time to an hour and a quarter. Lohmann and Preston again had charge of the bowling. On the wet wicket runs were obtained rapidly, until at 63 Mr Trott was bowled. In the same over Mr Turner left, and five runs later Mr Lyons retired, bowled. Subsequently Mr Worrall hit freely, but was eventually run out, and at half-past 3 the innings ended for 86. Lohmann and Preston were the most effective of the bowlers, Lohmann's five wickets costing an average of seven runs.

Maurice Read and Ulyett opened the home batting at 4 o'clock. Messrs Turner and Ferris had charge of the attack. In a quarter of an hour 25 runs were scored, and then Read fell to long-on. With Mr Newham in the batting again triumphed. Messrs Boyle and Lyons were deputed to bowl at 45, and these alterations quickly brought about the dismissal of Ulyett, caught at long-off, and Lohmann, caught at wicket. [Three] batsmen were now out for 49. When Briggs joined Mr Newham Mr Ferris resumed bowling, and at 66 he got rid of Briggs.

Mr Docker, who followed in, hit so freely that at 72 Mr Turner resumed. However, at 5.30 the Australian total was passed amid cheers. A quarter of an hour later the 100 was signalled. Mr Worrall had previously gone on for Mr Ferris. Mr Newham was caught at wicket at 121, and at this point stumps were drawn for the day. It will be seen that Messrs Blackham and Edwards are standing out of the Australian team.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 13 September, page 8)

After the enforced inactivity on account of rain on Tuesday at Leeds, the Australians completed an innings for 86, while the home side lost only half their wickets for 121. In fine weather yesterday the English resumed their batting at 10 minutes past 12. Mr Docker, not out 32, and Mr Smith were

opposed by Messrs Ferris and Turner.

Four runs were made from the former, but the latter with his second ball dismissed Mr Smith. Six for 125. Preston's stay was brief, as only three were added when he was finely caught at mid-off, while in the same over Mr Jarvis stumped Mr Brann. Mr Docker, who had played a capital innings of 38, was bowled at 136, and seven runs later Pilling left. Total 142; time 12.40.

With arrears of 56 the Colonials began their second venture at 1 o'clock. Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman were confronted by Lohmann and Briggs. The Australian captain scored eight out of nine and was then bowled. Mr Trott, who came next, soon grew busy. He made six in two hits from Lohmann, but at 22 he skied a ball from that bowler into the hands of mid-off. Messrs Bonnor and Bannerman were together at luncheon, when the figures stood at 30.

On resuming Briggs and Lohmann still had charge of the bowling. Mr Bonnor drove the latter twice for four, but at 45 he had his wicket upset, while a single later a catch at mid-on sent back Mr Bannerman. Mr Lyons joined Mr Jones. The latter obstructed his wicket at 55, and half the wickets were down and the innings defeat not yet averted. Mr Turner arrived. The score quickly reached 63, when Messrs Lyons and Worrall were dismissed from consecutive balls and seven batsmen were out.

The last three Australian wickets gave a great deal of trouble. Mr Turner hit so brilliantly that at 89 two new bowlers – Preston and Pougher – were tried. The Leicestershire professional soon got Mr Turner caught at wicket, and at 102 he bowled Mr Jarvis. Messrs Ferris and Boyle added 17 for the last wicket, and Lohmann had to resume bowling before the innings closed for 119 at 4 o'clock.

To get 64 on a bad wicket was no easy task for the Englishmen, especially as Ulyett had so severely injured his wrist that there was little probability of his going in a second time. They started badly against the bowling of Messrs Turner and Ferris. At 12 Read was stumped through the ball rebounding from the wicket-keeper's pads, and Lohmann was bowled. Eight runs later Mr Newham obstructed his wicket, and Preston left at 25. Briggs quickly fell to a catch at point, and half the batsmen were out for 30.

The excitement was intense when Messrs Smith and Docker became partners. The latter, after giving a difficult chance to mid-off (Mr Bannerman), hit freely, and the match was almost won before, at 56, Mr Smith was bowled. Mr Brann joined Mr Docker, and the task was then accomplished, the Englishmen winning by four wickets. There was a good attendance, and the spectators were not stinting in their applause for either side. The determined up-hill game played by the Australians especially aroused the enthusiasm of the onlookers.

12 September: GENTLEMEN OF SURREY v PARSEES (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/184/184969.html)

Day 1 (report from Thursday 13 September, page 8)

With few exceptions the bowlers had much the best of yesterday's cricket at Kennington Oval. It is the second attempt of the Parsees on this ground, the first match having resulted in an easy victory for the Gentlemen of Surrey.

Yesterday morning the home side went in on a slow wicket. The batsmen were dismissed with the most surprising rapidity; four fell for 11 runs, and in the end the total only reached 49. Messrs Pavri and Writer bowled unchanged. The former claimed five wickets . . .

The Parsees started badly, losing three wickets for 13 runs. Subsequently, Mr R D Cooper batted with considerable success and the total reached 82. Mr C E Horner, who a few years ago rendered the county great service as a bowler, secured two wickets in 19 overs . . . Mr Morgan, however, had the best analysis . . .

Surrey, who were 33 behind, did much better at their second attempt. Mr Bowden hit brilliantly for 59, in which were a five, eight fours, a three and four twos. The subjoined score will show that the home team, with four wickets in hand, are 109 runs ahead.

Day 2 (report from Friday 14 September, page 8)

There was an exciting finish to this match at Kennington Oval yesterday. Although at one time the Parsees appeared to have the game well in hand they ultimately lost. When play ceased on Wednesday evening the score was left in an even state, Surrey being 109 runs ahead with four wickets to fall in their second venture. Yesterday morning the innings rapidly ended for an addition of 18. Mr Pavri claimed five wickets . . .

Requiring 128 to win, the Parsees went in a second time. After losing half their wickets for 57, Messrs Cooper and Dubash played very well. The former's 55 included two fours, five threes and five twos. When the sixth wicket fell only 14 were wanted to win. The last four wickets, however, were captured for four, and Surrey won by nine runs. Mr Jephson took six wickets . . .

13 September: A SHREWSBURY'S AUSTRALIAN TEAM v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3409.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 September, page 8)

The first day of the return match between the Australians and the team which visited the colonies last winter produced cricket of a most extraordinary character. It is curious to note how sensational the play has been on the occasions of the Colonials' matches this season at Old Trafford.

Up to the time that the fourth English wicket fell yesterday the batsmen had considerably the best of the cricket. From that point, however, the bowlers carried all before them. The Australian defence was feeble in the extreme, and Lohmann and Briggs both secured remarkable bowling analyses. The weather being fine, a numerous company visited the ground.

The Englishmen won the toss, and shortly after noon Maurice Read and Mr Newham opened their innings to the bowling of Messrs Ferris and Turner. The professional hit vigorously, and made 20 out of 28 before a ball from Mr Turner struck his wicket. Previously he had been nearly caught in the long field by Mr Bonnor. Lohmann, who joined Mr Newham, at once hit with freedom, and among other items he obtained five by a leg hit from Mr Turner. When he had made five Mr Newham gave a difficult chance to Mr Blackham at mid-off. Up to that time he had been playing with great care, but immediately after his escape he hit brilliantly.

Messrs Trott and Lyons were put on to bowl, but did not prove successful, so at 74 Mr Turner resumed. Shortly afterwards from Mr Trott's bowling Mr Newham was twice missed at mid-off by Mr Blackham. This time, however, his escape proved of little value to him, as at 87 he was bowled by Mr Turner, while three runs later the last-named dismissed Lohmann. Both batsmen had played fine cricket. Three for 90. With Mr Docker and Briggs together the score again travelled rapidly. Although Mr Ferris resumed, no further wicket fell before the interval, when the figures were 118.

After luncheon Messrs Turner and Ferris shared the bowling. The figures soon reached 152, when Mr Lyons went on, and in his first over he dismissed Briggs for a vigorous 37. Mr Crosfield joined Mr Docker, who, after Mr Trott had gone on again, was missed at slip by Mr Bonnor. Mr Turner took the ball once more at 170, and then the innings was rapidly finished off. Only a single was added when Mr Crosfield was caught at slip, at 172 Mr Docker hit his wicket, and 188 Mr Smith was bowled, at 189 a smart piece of stumping sent back Mr Brann, and Preston returned the ball. Six runs later the innings closed for 195 at a quarter past 4. The last five wickets had fallen for 24 runs.

Little description is necessary of the first venture of the Australians. They went in at half-past 4 and were all out in 55 minutes for 35. Lohmann and Briggs shared the attack. Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman started the innings. The latter was leg-before at eight, Mr Trott was run out, while at 9 Mr M'Donnell fell to slip and Mr Lyons was bowled. Mr Bonnor left at 14 and Mr Turner was taken in the long field. Mr Worrall was soon bowled, and seven wickets were down for 18. Subsequently Mr Ferris hit freely until caught at short-leg at 35, and at the same total the last two wickets fell. Time, 5.30.

The Australians followed on against a majority of 160. In ten minutes two wickets fell without a run being scored, so that there is little prospect of the visitors saving the game to-day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 15 September, page 10)

The Australians played an uphill game with great determination at Manchester yesterday. It will be remembered that on Thursday evening the Australians followed on against a majority of 160 and lost two wickets for nothing. Shortly after noon Messrs Edwards and M'Donnell resumed the visitors' defence. Lohmann and Briggs shared the bowling.

The Australian captain drove the former twice to the boundary and scored eight in three hits from Briggs. Altogether he made 22 out of 30 in 20 minutes, and was then bowled. Mr Bannerman stayed while Mr Edwards cut and drove Lohmann for four. Four for 38. Mr Trott came next. Mr Edwards succumbed to a catch at slip four runs later, and half the wickets were lost for 42.

Mr Bonnor joined Mr Trott, who scored freely, especially from Briggs. A catch at long-off sent back Mr Bonnor at 69, and he was succeeded by Mr Lyons. Before he had scored he should have been caught by Mr Smith at long-off, a mistake which cost the home side a large number of runs. Both batsmen hit vigorously, and although Preston and Pougher were tried at 86 the three figures appeared at a quarter to 2. Ten runs later Mr Smith displaced Preston. This alteration soon had the effect desired, as with five added Mr Lyons was bowled. The partnership had produced 46.

After luncheon another determined stand was made by Messrs Turner and Trott. Both hit brilliantly, and although the original bowlers took up the attack the innings defeat was averted by a quarter past 3. Lohmann gave way to Preston at 168. When he had scored 26 Mr Turner was let off by Mr Smith, but at 184 he was caught at long-on. Since the fall of the sixth wicket 69 had been added. Mr Trott did not long survive his partner, for at 189 he was taken at wicket. His faultless 73, for which he had been in 2 1/4 hours, consisted of eight fours, six threes, four twos and singles. Mr Blackham quickly obstructed his wicket, and at a quarter to 4 the venture closed for 192. The last four wickets had put together 123 runs.

The Englishmen required 33 for victory. Briggs and Read began this task to the attacks of Messrs Turner and Ferris. Briggs scored three fours from the former, but at 27 he was bowled. Then Mr Crosfield and Read hit off the remaining runs and won the match for Shrewsbury's team by nine wickets.

13 September: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3410.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 September, page 8)

The once most popular match between Northern and Southern divisions of England has of recent years fallen into disrepute. The reasons are not far to seek. In many instances the title was greatly abused by its adoption for unrepresentative matches, while the growing interest in county games appeared to anything but enhance its popularity. For the present contest the Hastings executive were fortunate in securing so many good players – this, too, in spite of the Australian fixture at Manchester.

Yesterday, the opening day of the week, the weather was fine and a large company followed a capital day's cricket with keen interest. The South won the toss, and Abel and Dr Grace opened the batting at 12.20. Barnes and Attewell were the bowlers. Runs were scored rapidly, and although at 37 Peel went on, the 50 was reached at 1 o'clock. Nine runs later Barlow bowled in lieu of Attewell, but the total stood at 77 before the first wicket fell, Abel being bowled by Peel. Two runs later Dr Grace was out for 44, in which were seven fours, a three and two twos. Mr Pigg was caught and bowled, and three wickets were down for 87. Messrs Key and Read were now together. The score rose at a quick rate, and at a quarter to 2 the 100 was reached. Seventeen runs later the adjournment took place.

After luncheon Attewell and Peel had charge of the attack. With the score at 138 Mr Key was beaten by Attewell, and Mr Sutthery arrived. Mr Walter Read in one over from Peel made a cut for four and a drive out of the ground for six. Flowers was tried at 152, and a few minutes later Mr Read should have been caught at wicket. Mr Sutthery hit the ball into the hands of mid-on, but while Messrs Read and M'Cormick were together runs came at a great pace. The second hundred was signalled at a quarter past 4. Further changes in the bowling were tried, and at length Mr Read fell to a catch at slip. Six for 233. He had played a brilliant innings of 96, in which were a six, 13 fours, two threes and seven twos. He was in altogether two hours and a quarter.

Wright was bowled two runs later, Mr M'Cormick soon fell to a catch at wicket, while the dismissal of A Hearne and Beaumont brought the venture to a close for 258. The North went in at half-past 5. Hall was run out at 16 . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 15 September, page 10)

Another excellent day's cricket was witnessed at Hastings yesterday in the continuation of the first match of the week. In all departments the play proved most interesting. The weather kept fine and the wicket showed few signs of wear. On Thursday the South completed an innings for 258 and their opponents lost one wicket for 36.

Yesterday Mr Dixon and Gunn, with 16 and 8, went on with the North batting to the attacks of Beaumont and A Hearne. Runs came freely, and at 60 the bowling underwent a change, Wright relieving Beaumont. At addition of 14, however, saw Gunn caught at wicket from A Hearne. He had made five fours. When Barnes arrived the score still travelled rapidly, so that Dr Grace superseded Wright. Seven runs came in his first over, and the 100 went up at half-past 12. Beaumont displaced Hearne, but at 111 Dr Grace got Barnes caught in the long field.

Wickets now fell rapidly. Mr Dixon fell to slip for a brilliant 53, in which were six fours and six threes. A well-judged catch at deep square-leg sent back Sugg, Mr Daft was bowled and Attewell caught at slip. Thus in the course of a few overs the game had undergone a great change. With seven wickets down for 141 it became a question as to whether the visitors would avert the follow on. Flowers, however, hit vigorously and drove a ball from Dr Grace out of the ground for six, causing the southern captain to give way to Wright at 163. A single later Barlow had his leg stump bowled down, while at 178 Flowers was caught at slip. When Sherwin, the last man, appeared the follow on was quickly saved, and the total reached 187 before Peel was secured at third man. Time, 1.55.

With a lead of 71 the South went in a second time. Dr Grace and Abel were opposed by Attewell and Peel. Having made ten out of 14 Dr Grace was taken at extra mid-off, and Mr Pigg arrived. The batsmen played with care and, although Barlow went on for Attewell, 50 was telegraphed at 4 o'clock. Flowers now relieved Peel and quickly got Mr Pigg caught at wicket, while at 74 Mr Read was secured in the slips. Abel and Mr Key were now partners. The professional retired – bowled – at 98, but with Mr Sutthery in the 100 was reached shortly after 5 o'clock. There were no more bowling changes before, at 130, Mr Sutthery was dismissed.

Subsequently Barlow was tried again with success, for at 151 Mr M'Cormick fell to a catch at wicket and at 153 Wright was bowled. At this point stumps were drawn, the South being 224 ahead with three wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Monday 17 September, page 10)

The opening match of the week at Hastings furnished a most exciting finish. The absence of several of the leading players at Manchester did not prevent the contest from being thoroughly representative, and until the last ball on Saturday the interest was maintained. When stumps were drawn on Friday the South with three wickets to fall in their second innings were 224 ahead.

On Saturday, shortly after noon, Mr Key, the not-out with 42, and A Hearne resumed the home batting. Barlow and Peel had charge of the bowling. Mr Key played with that vigour which generally characterizes his cricket, while Hearne was content to keep up his wicket, and he scored very slowly. The bowlers crossed over and afterwards went back to their original ends, yet the figures travelled rapidly. At 181 Attewell superseded Barlow, and five runs later Flowers took the ball from Peel. Nine runs were added and then Hearne was bowled; the stand had realized 44.

Without alteration, Phillips cut the ball into the hands of point, but Beaumont stayed with Mr Key some few minutes. Two hundred appeared at 1 o'clock, but at 206 Flowers dismissed Beaumont and closed the innings. Mr Key took out his bat for a capital 79, the result of rather more than two and a half hours' play. He had hit with much more freedom than on the previous evening, and his items included ten fours, three threes and nine twos.

With 278 runs to obtain for victory the North went in a second time at half-past 1. The wicket was still in good order, but to win the visitors had to score at the rate of about 78 an hour – no easy task against the bowling and fielding of the South. Mr Dixon and Hall opened the batting, while the attack was shared by Walter Wright and Beaumont. Only half a dozen runs had been scored when Hall was splendidly caught at slip by Mr Read, who took the ball with his left hand. Mr Daft came next, but at 15 another misfortune befell the North, as Mr Dixon was secured at slip. With Gunn in,

Dr Grace relieved Wright, but at luncheon the total was 32 for two wickets.

After the interval Beaumont and Dr Grace still shared the attack. Runs came freely, Gunn hitting with great vigour. Fifty soon went up, and seven runs later Dr Grace gave way to Hearne. Mr Daft at this point scored rapidly, but when Wright went on for Beaumont he quickly obstructed his wicket. Three for 72. Sugg and Gunn were now partners and again the figures travelled with rapidity; the 100 was telegraphed at 10 minutes to 4. Subsequently Beaumont and Mr Suthery took up the bowling, and at 120 the former got Sugg finely caught at long-off, Mr M'Cormick, after several attempts, just managing to hold the ball. Attewell was run out, and half the wickets were down for 129.

Barnes and Gunn, however, hit freely, and the bowling was entrusted to Wright and Mr Pigg, while, after Gunn had given a difficult chance to extra slip, Mr Read tried his lobs. However, at 185 Mr Pigg bowled down Barnes's leg stump. The partnership had rapidly yielded 56. When Barlow arrived Beaumont relieved Mr Pigg, yet the 200 was signalled at a quarter past 5. There seemed every probability of Gunn securing his 100, but at 201 he was caught at mid-off, standing deep. His brilliant innings of 91 extended over two hours and a half, and except for the chance mentioned, he made no mistake. He hit 11 fours, five threes and seven twos.

Flowers stayed with Barlow until 220, when a brilliant running catch by Mr M'Cormick, at mid-off, brought about his dismissal. There were yet 25 minutes left for play and great excitement prevailed, for the North still had two wickets to fall. At 230, however, Peate was caught in the slips and Sherwin, the last man, was secured by Abel at slip, high up with his left hand. Thus the innings closed, and within four minutes of "time" the South won by 47 runs. The home team showed excellent form in the field.

17 September: SOUTH v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3411.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 September, page 10)

One of the largest attendances known on the Hastings cricket ground was present yesterday to witness the continuation of "the week." The second match on the programme was between the Australians and the South of England. The former, who have appeared here once before this season, left out Messrs Boyle and Jones. The South played the same team which defeated the North last week, with these exceptions – Mr C A Smith, Mr W Newham and Lohmann taking the places of Mr M'Cormick, W Wright and A Hearne.

Just about noon, at the time set for the beginning, the weather was dull, but it brightened soon after the start and held fine throughout the day. In the afternoon among those in the pavilion were the Right Hon G J Goschen, Lord Brassey, Sir Archibald Ashburnham and Mr P R Papillon.

Successful in the toss, the Australians took possession of an excellent wicket at 10 minutes past 12. Messrs Bannerman and M'Donnell were opposed by Lohmann and Beaumont. Three singles were obtained in four overs by the first-named batsman. Mr M'Donnell then cut Lohmann to the boundary, and in the next over from Beaumont Mr Bannerman made eight by two similar hits. Seven were then scored in an over by the Australian captain, who next made a late cut and leg-hit for four each from Lohmann. Half an hour's play yielded 38 runs, and then Mr Bannerman was finely caught at third man. One down.

Mr Trott came in, and before he had scored was missed by Abel at slip. He then obtained a lucky four to the boundary. Mr M'Donnell cut each bowler for four, and at 55 Beaumont handed the ball to Mr Smith. A drive by the Australian captain to the boundary from Lohmann caused him to be creditable with 40 runs as the result of an hour's play. Mr Trott now had a further escape, this time at the hands of the wicket-keeper. Mr M'Donnell, who had made a couple of risky hits, was shortly afterwards caught at mid-on. Two for 77. Mr Bonnor opened with a single, and then drove Mr Smith finely along the ground for four, but the very next ball clean bowled him.

Mr Lyons joined Mr Trott, who scored two fours by an on-drive and leg-hit off successive balls from Mr Smith. Mr Lyons with a three to square-leg caused the 100 to be completed after an hour and a half's play. Mr W G Grace now relieved Mr Smith. Mr Lyons made drives to the off-boundary in successive overs from Lohmann, who relinquished the ball to Beaumont. Mr Lyons was in grand form. He made four by a leg-hit in the opening over of the change, and then drove Mr Grace to toe on-boundary. Nor was Mr Trott idle, making two cuts for four each, and when the interval for luncheon was taken the score stood at 151. The experiment of putting on Mr Walter Read to bowl was tried, and Lohmann took charge of the attack at the other end. Mr Lyons made a square-leg hit from the former, which nearly led to his dismissal, but the ball went to the boundary. In the following over Mr Trott was clean bowled, having made 50 by seven fours, two threes, three twos and singles. Four for 169.

Mr Turner, who was next on the list, made a single, while Mr Lyons hit freely. At 184 the new comer was finely caught with the right hand at slip off Beaumont, who had superseded Mr Read at 171. Half the wickets were now lost for the capital average of over 35 runs each. Messrs Lyons and Jarvis became associated. The former sent the ball to leg for four, and by a late cut to the boundary off Beaumont caused the 200 to be signalled at a quarter to 4. Mr Lyons then cut

Beaumont and sent him to leg, the ball on both occasions going to the boundary. Mr Pigg relieved Beaumont at 222, but the separation came from the opposite end, Mr Lyons being caught at slip. He had been at the wicket while 140 runs had been put on, and his freely-hit innings comprised 15 fours, two threes, six twos and singles.

Mr Edwards was clean bowled without scoring, and seven batsmen were out for 223. Messrs Jarvis and Blackham next became partners. With the addition of ten runs only the latter was bowled. Eight for 233. Mr Worrall joined Mr Jarvis, who scored four by an on-drive from Lohmann, who, having been hit rather freely, gave way to Mr Smith at 262. Mr Jarvis then cut Mr Pigg through the slips to the boundary. The total having reached 280, Mr Read went on for the last-named, but in the next over from Mr Smith Mr Jarvis was bowled. He had been batting an hour and 40 minutes for his 37. Nine for 281. Mr Ferris assisted Mr Worrall, and Phillips being struck in the face caused a short delay. At length Mr Worrall was caught at deep square leg, and the innings, which had occupied four hours and five minutes, closed at 5.15 for a total of 291. Stumps were then drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 September, page 6)

Although there were many features of interest in the play at Hastings yesterday, the cricket, on the whole, proved disappointing, especially to its promoters. The eleven which they had selected was admittedly strong in batting, and yet on a wicket almost made for scoring, they had to accept the undignified task of following on. The old qualities of the Australians – good bowling backed up by excellent fielding – were seen to advantage, and appeared to be fully appreciated by the spectators. The weather held fine and the wicket left no excuse for complaint.

There was an exceptionally large company on the ground at half-past 11; many doubtless attended with the idea of seeing Dr W G Grace bat. This gentleman was accompanied to the wickets by Abel. Mr Turner led off the attack, and his first ball the Gloucestershire captain cut for four; but, in the same over, he was caught at third man with one hand. Mr Newham came in. Abel scored four by a cut through the slips off Mr Turner to the boundary. The next ball he drove to the off, and a reckless attempt for a run ended in Mr Newham being dismissed through a sharp return. Mr Read joined Abel and cut each bowler for four. Indeed, he looked like making a long stay, but was disposed of by a fine catch at the second attempt by Mr Trott at point. Three for 25 was a very sorry outlook for the Englishmen.

Abel and Mr Key, however, infused some life into the game. The former drove Mr Ferris to the off boundary, and later Mr Key made two fours by an on-drive and leg-hit from the same bowler; he also secured a couple of threes off Mr Turner. The 50 was signalled after three-quarters of an hour's play. At 69 Mr Trott relieved Mr Turner, and his first over produced nine runs. Mr Ferris soon gave way to Mr Turner, in whose second over Mr Key was out from a well-judged catch by Mr Bonnor in the long field. Among his hits were two fours, six threes and six twos. Four for 94. With the addition of a single, Abel was caught at slip, having been in an hour and 25 minutes for his 29 runs, and in these were four fours in succession. Half the wickets were now down for 95, or less than a third of the entire total of their opponents.

With the addition of three runs only Mr Pigg was taken at wicket; he had been in for a quarter of an hour without scoring. Mr Sutthery joined Lohmann, who, with an off-drive for four from Mr Turner, shot the total beyond the 100 at a quarter past 1. In the last ball of the over he gave a hard chance to Mr Worrall at long-on, but, having crossed over, he was at once caught splendidly at extra

mid-off by Mr Bannerman. Seven for 106.

Mr Smith joined Mr Sutthery, who, seven runs later, fell to the wicket-keeper. Phillips appeared, and Mr Smith hit with a vigour which so often characterizes his cricket. He made two fours from successive balls off Mr Turner. At 142 Phillips was caught at long-slip and Beaumont arrived. Mr Smith then made two fours, by off-drives, from Mr Trott, after which he scored 14 in an over off the same bowler, by a cut for four, a straight drive for six and an off-drive for four. Mr Ferris then went on for Mr Trott at 174, and the third ball sent to Mr Smith caused him to be well taken at deep mid-off. His hits were rather curious, and comprised a six, eight fours, a three, a two and a single. Thus the England side were all out with a deficit of 117. The luncheon interval was now taken.

After an hour had elapsed England began their second venture in the same order as they had done in the first. A departure was made in the attack, as Mr Trott seemed in such good form that he and Mr Turner shared the bowling. Each batsman had made an on-drive for four from the latter, when Abel was caught at third man. Mr Newham came to the assistance of Dr Grace, who made 12 by three cuts in two overs. He supplemented this performance by cutting Mr Turner for four and driving him to the on-boundary. Two brilliant drives by the South of England captain for four each brought the score to 50. Five runs later a two-fold change was adopted, Messrs Ferris and Lyons sharing the attack. In the former's first over Dr W G Grace made eight by a couple of off-drives, but quickly afterwards he was finely caught low down at slip. He had been batting three-quarters of an hour for his 53, in which were ten fours, four twos and five singles.

Mr Read followed in, and a novelty was witnessed in the bowling of Mr Newham by a no-ball from Mr Lyons. That batsman then drove Mr Lyons to the on for four, after which Mr Read had an escape from a return catch by the same bowler. With the figures at 76 Mr Newham played the ball on, and Mr Key fell to the dexterity of the wicket-keeper before he had much opportunity of scoring. Four for 76. Lohmann joined Mr Read, and for a time both batsmen played cautiously; the most important item in ten minutes was an off-drive by Mr Read to the boundary. Immediately after this Lohmann was caught at forward short-leg; half the wickets were now down for 97.

Mr Smith was next on the list, but lost the company of Mr Read – caught at mid-off – while a single later he himself was clean bowled. Seven for 116. One run was still required when Messrs Sutthery and Pigg became partners. A hit for three by the latter, however, caused the innings defeat to be averted. Mr Turner relieved Mr Lyons at 129, and when Mr Pigg had cut Mr Ferris for four that bowler relinquished the ball to Mr Trott. This batsman escaped being stumped, but at 141 Mr Sutthery was bowled, and Beaumont, four runs later, fell to a catch at mid-off. Mr Pigg made 19, chiefly by two leg-hits, an off-drive and a cut, and, although Mr Ferris was put on, Mr Pigg and Phillips remained unconquered when stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 20 September, page 6)

Throughout the contest with which the Hastings week ended yesterday the Australians were seen to advantage, and not only in one department but at all points, for their batting, bowling and fielding were quite in keeping with the reputation established by Mr Murdoch's teams. In addition to Dr Grace (second innings) several of the Englishmen showed very good form, but on the whole their play was disappointing. After the series of misfortunes they have experienced the success of the Colonials will not be grudged them, for in this instance they played decidedly the better game. Yesterday the weather was fine, but the uneven state of the overnight score of course materially lessened the interest in the last day's cricket.

The not-outs, Mr Pigg (38) and Phillips, who had not scored, proceeded to the wickets. Messrs Turner and Ferris were intrusted with the attack. A couple of singles were obtained by the Sussex wicket-keeper in four overs. He then enlivened matters by cutting Turner for four, but this bowler tempted him to return the next ball. Total 175.

With the easy task of 59 to win the Australians sent in Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman to start. Lohmann and Beaumont shared the attack. Mr Bannerman made an off drive for five in the opening over, but in the fourth the Australian captain returned the ball. Mr Trott came in, and after Mr Bannerman had made a square-leg hit to the pavilion he cut Beaumont for four. Both batsmen played a thoroughly sound game, and each made several very smart cuts. Beaumont came in for the greater share of punishment, and he was the first changed, giving place to Mr Smith at 39. No alteration, however, had been made in the total when Lohmann handed the ball to Mr Pigg. The batsmen were by no means deterred and played with as much care as before.

When very few runs were required the bowling was again taken up by Lohmann and Beaumont, but with no success, and by 1 o'clock the Australians had secured victory by nine wickets . . .

20 September: SURREY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3412.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 21 September, page 8)

In whatever light the contest between the Colonials and Surrey is viewed, the fact remains that a more attractive fixture for the close of the season could scarcely have been arranged. With Surrey at the head of the counties it is only natural that its supporters should have the ambition for a victory over the Australians.

The team which claims the county championship has been singularly unfortunate in its encounters against our visitors. While Gloucestershire, Nottinghamshire, Sussex and Lancashire are able to boast successes (Notts and Gloucestershire each won twice) over the Colonials, the Surrey record so far is one loss and one draw. True, rain robbed them of a victory in the latter instance, but this is a small consolation for the previous defeat. To win the third match the Englishmen have no easy task, for the Australians very recently demonstrated that they can play a winning game as well as most teams. Even on a good wicket a first innings of 259 is a formidable total to go in against, and when the class of bowling is considered, the chances are of course in favour of the Australians.

When it became known yesterday morning that Mr M'Donnell had won the toss many of the Surrey partisans quickly took a desponding view of affairs. Their ranks were considerably increased later in the afternoon when Mr Bonnor for nearly two hours triumphed over the home bowlers. The great Australian batsman played with all his old vigour, and delighted not a few of the onlookers by his fine hitting. Previously to luncheon Mr Read's lobs surely puzzled the Australians, but subsequently Mr Bonnor showed his appreciation of them by scoring 25 in two overs. An idea may be gained of the fast rate of run-getting after the interval when it is stated that in three-quarters of an hour 88 runs were made – 60 by Mr Bonnor alone. Before the adjournment an hour and 50 minutes had been devoted to compiling 68. Mr Bonnor's faultless innings eclipsed the capital displays by Messrs Trott and M'Donnell.

Although good, the Surrey fielding did not reach the high standard spectators have been led to expect of them. Bowley carried off the honours in the attack; Lohmann's solitary wicket cost more than 60 runs.

The very fine weather yesterday reminded one of August rather than the end of September. The turf, too, was in splendid order, which, with the many thousand people assembled round the extensive field of play, gave the Oval a most pleasing appearance. Surrey was represented by its full strength, while the Colonials left out Messrs Boyle and Jones.

Shortly after noon the Surrey eleven appeared in the field and were loudly applauded, as were also the first two Australian batsmen – Messrs M'Donnell and Bannerman. Lohmann led off the bowling from the pavilion end with his field placed thus: - Mr Key, mid-on; Wood, wicket; Abel, slip; Bowley, extra slip; Henderson, third match; Mr Read, point; Mr Shuter, cover-point; Mr Bowden, extra mid-off; Mr Bowden, mid-off; M Read, long-off. Nothing was scored in the first over.

Bowley took the ball at the other end, and the fieldsmen were in the following positions: - Mr Key, mid-on; Beaumont, short leg; Wood, wicket; Abel, slip; Lohmann, extra slip; M Read, third man; Mr Read, point; Mr Shuter, cover-point; Mr Bowden, mid-off; Henderson, long-off. Mr M'Donnell

scored a single, and getting to the other end he cut Lohmann for three. In the course of the next few overs he made two similar hits with a like result, bringing the figures to 14 after 20 minutes' play.

The Australian captain continued to do the major part of the scoring. He obtained six by three drives in an over from Lohmann, and having given a difficult chance at wicket, he drove a ball from Bowley to the on boundary. He next cut Lohmann for four, and with the total at 32, which had been reached in half an hour, the bowling underwent a change. Mr Read was put on with lobs at Lohmann's end. Neither batsman seemed at home with the variation; but from the other bowler the Australian captain scored seven by two leg hits. At length, at 42, the separation was effected, Mr M'Donnell falling to an easy catch at slip. He had made 35 out of 42, and in his contribution were three fours, four threes and three twos.

With Mr Trott in the play became very slow. The batsmen showed the utmost caution in dealing with Mr Read's lobs, while with eight men on the off-side it was a matter of difficulty to score from the other end. Mr Bannerman next obtained a couple on the leg-side, which gave him his double figures and brought 50 up at 10 minutes past 1. To give an idea of the character of the cricket, it may be mentioned that the last eight runs had taken half an hour to obtain. Lohmann and Beaumont now took up the attack, but the play was still very quiet. The bowlers crossed over and at 68 Abel was put on for Lohmann. Without addition, Mr Bannerman was taken at slip. He had been in an hour and three-quarters for 18. With two wickets down for 68, the adjournment for luncheon was made.

After the interval Mr Bonnor assisted Mr Trott, and the bowlers were Lohmann and Beaumont. The latter tried hard to make the ball get up; he kept his pitch very short, but the wicket was too good, and after a time runs were put on rapidly. Mr Trott cut and drove Beaumont to the boundary, while Mr Bonnor obtained a four from each end. Then a single by Mr Trott caused the 100 to be telegraphed at five minutes past three. Mr Read's lobs were tried again at 98; but this alteration proved very unsuccessful. Mr Read having missed running out Mr Trott, Mr Bonnor drove him to the off-boundary. The last-named followed this up by scoring 25 in the next two overs from Mr Read by five fours (four drives – one over the stand – and a cut), two twos and a single. Maurice Read relieved Mr Read at 130; but Mr Bonnor sent him to leg and cut him for four each. Mr Trott also cut Lohmann for three, and so far 73 runs had been added in half an hour since luncheon.

Bowley superseded Lohmann at 143. Still Mr Bonnor continued his powerful hitting, and by a leg hit to the boundary he completed his 50 in 35 minutes. The 150 was reached at 3.25, after which a maiden was sent down – the first for some time. Eighty-eight had been added in three-quarters of an hour, when Mr Trott fell to a neat catch at slip. Three down. When Mr Lyons came in Mr Bonnor cut Read to the boundary, and at 162 Beaumont was again put on to bowl. With the first ball of his second over he sent Mr Lyons' leg stump out of the ground, making four wickets down for 167.

Messrs Jarvis and Bonnor were now associated. The latter at this time played much more steadily, yet his score increased at a good pace. Abel relieved Bowley at 180. Mr Jarvis twice sent him to the square-leg boundary, while a cut for four by Mr Bonnor increased the score to 200 at 20 minutes past 4. Henderson and Lohmann were now put on. Mr Bonnor continued to bat with care, but at 218 he was caught at wicket for 87. He was in altogether an hour and three-quarters, and among his hits were 13 fours, a three and seven twos. A dozen runs later Mr Jarvis was bowled, and at 243 a good ball from Bowley sent back Mr Turner. Seven down.

Mr Blackham came next, but with four added he was well caught at cover-point, while at 249 Mr

Edwards was completely beaten by a ball from Beaumont. Messrs Ferris and Worrall were partners for the last wicket. The latter gave a difficult chance to Mr Key at third man, but his escape proved of little service to him, for just upon the call of time, Lohmann caught him brilliantly in the slips, taking the ball with one hand low down – indeed, he fell in making the catch. Stumps were then drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 September, page 10)

Cricket of an especially interesting character was witnessed on the Oval yesterday. At one time the Australians had secured a great advantage; but this they lost through the superb defence of Wood and Beaumont, who practically saved their side from disaster.

From the start until well into the afternoon the game went steadily against the county. Certainly the visitors' score of 259 was no mean total to fear, yet one looked for a tolerably good number from a side which possesses so many cricketers of ability. But up to a certain point the county's supporters were bitterly disappointed. In spite of a couple of mistakes by the fieldsmen the Colonials disposed of eight of their opponents for 120, or 60 behind the number required to save the "follow-on." So far there was every probability of Surrey having to go on with a deficiency of something like 100 runs.

Wood has more than once rendered his side valuable assistance with the bat, and occasionally Beaumont has been creditable with a good score. Yet their brilliant stand came altogether as a surprise and completely revived the drooping hopes of the team. Both played with a mastery most remarkable, and one might have mistaken them for batsmen of the front rank. There was scarcely a vestige of a mistake about their defence from the time they came in until the partnership ended. As the score travelled steadily so the exciting among the spectators increased. Once Wood had a most narrow escape of being run out, for, when the bowler had fielded the ball, he found his partner close up to him and he himself had not started. The case appeared hopeless, but Wood, who had nearly the length of the pitch to travel, ran his hardest, and Mr Turner returned the ball so high to the wicket-keeper that the batsman just reached his crease. Such were the chances of his success that in many instances the attempt to get home would not have been made.

Wood played by far the best innings of the day, although Maurice Read, the highest scorer, hit with much of his old vigour. The Australian fielding was not up to their reputation, and it grew distinctly slack towards the end of the Surrey innings. Mr Jarvis, however, kept wicket very well. Beautiful weather was again experienced and fully 12000 people visited the ground.

The surface of the turf was wet through the heavy dew, and the ball became greasy within a few minutes of the start. Strict punctuality was observed, and by the time (11.15) fixed for the commencement the Australians had taken up their positions. Mr Shuter and Abel were the early Surrey batsmen. Mr Turner opened the bowling from the gasometer end with his field thus: - Mr Jarvis, wicket; Mr M'Donnell, slip; Mr Ferris, extra slip; Mr Worrall, third man; Mr Trott, point; Mr Bannerman, extra mid-off; Mr Blackham, mid-off; Mr Lyons, long-off; Mr Bonnor, long-on; and Mr Edwards, mid-on. The first over proved a maiden.

Mr Ferris had charge of the attack at the pavilion wicket, the positions of the fieldsmen being as follows: - Mr Jarvis, wicket; Mr Bonnor, slip; Mr Turner, third man; Mr Trott, point; Mr Worrall, cover-point; Mr Bannerman, extra mid-off; Mr Blackham, mid-off; Mr M'Donnell, long-off; Mr Lyons, mid-on; Mr Edwards, deep on the off side. From the second ball Abel should have been

caught at cover-point, but Mr Worrall's foot slipped and he failed to make the catch.

Only two runs had been scored when in the fourth over Mr Shuter fell to third man. Mr Key, who came in, quickly played Mr Turner to leg for three, and later on he drove a ball from Mr Ferris finely to the boundary. At 11, however, he was easily caught at mid-off, and Mr Read arrived. An appeal against the latter for leg-before was answered in the negative, after which he cut Mr Turner for three. Fifteen runs were recorded as the result of half an hour's play. Mr Read now enlivened matters by hitting Mr Turner to leg and driving him for four each in succession. Afterwards there was nothing of note for some time. Abel made frequent bad strokes and was repeatedly beaten before at 25 he was leg-before. He had been in nearly three-quarters of an hour for a single.

Maurice Read joined his namesake. Several small hits raised the figures to 30 at a quarter past 12. Eleven runs were added in the course of the next few overs, and then Mr Read obstructed his wicket. Four for 41. Mr Bowden came in. Read drove Mr Turner to the on-boundary and obtained seven by three hits in the next over from Mr Ferris, which brought 50 up at half-past 12. Several clever runs were next obtained, but when he had made 27 Maurice Read might have been caught by Mr Lyons at mid-on. He next drove Mr Ferris for two and sent him to leg for three. Then the play became very quiet. At 68 a change in the bowling was tried, Mr Trott relieving Mr Ferris. The alteration had the effect desired, as in the third over the former got Mr Bowden easily caught at mid-on. Thirty-one had been added for the partnership, but Mr Bowden, though he had played very well, was credited with only three.

Henderson, who filled the vacancy, opened with a crisp cut for two, but directly afterwards he nearly ran himself out. Read in the next over was twice almost bowled and once nearly played on. Runs were now scored rapidly. Henderson sent a ball from Mr Trott to the leg boundary, and from Mr Turner each batsman obtained a three. With the total at 88 the bowling was changed at both ends, Messrs Ferris and Lyons going on. Read, however, secured two by a drive, and by half-past 1 he had completed his 50. Several twos followed, but at 97 Mr Lyons clean bowled Henderson. Six down.

Lohmann, who had his captain to run for him, joined Read. The new batsman by a couple to leg increased the figures to 100 at a quarter to 2. Shortly afterwards Mr Turner resumed bowling, while at 103 Mr Trott was given another trial. From the latter's second ball Maurice Read's excellent innings was closed by a smart piece of stumping. He had been in an hour and 40 minutes, and his hits consisted of a four, four threes, nine twos and singles. Seven for 103. Wood came in. He made three by a drive, while Lohmann by a similar stroke sent the ball to the boundary. When the interval arrived the score stood at 112. Thus Surrey with only three wickets to fall required 68 to avert the follow on.

After luncheon Messrs Ferris and Turner shared the attack. Three maidens were followed by Lohmann cutting and driving Mr Ferris to the boundary. In the same over, however, he was clean bowled, and eight wickets were down for 120. With only two men to come in Surrey's partisans took a despondent view of affairs as precisely 60 were still necessary to avert the follow on.

Wood and Beaumont batted steadily. The former secured four by a snick, while his partner made five by two hits on the leg side. Mr Lyons relieved Mr Turner at 138, and directly afterwards Wood nearly lost his wicket. Beaumont had got to the other end before his partner started for the run, and it was only through Mr Turner returning the ball very high that he was enabled to get home. The score travelled steadily, and at 148 Mr Ferris gave way to Mr Trott. However, the 150 was reached at 3.25, and 11 more were rapidly added. Messrs Turner and Ferris then resumed, and the alteration

at once stopped the run-getting; but not for long, as, after several maidens, Wood drove Mr Turner for four and three. Two other items raised the figures to within three of the desired number, and then Wood, by a very fine cut for four, saved the follow-on amid tremendous applause. The bowlers crossed over at 181, and three runs later the separation was effected, a good ball from Mr Ferris striking the top of Beaumont's wicket. He had played sound cricket for his 18; the partnership had realized altogether 64 in an hour and ten minutes.

Bowley, the last man, gave considerable trouble. Indeed, he was in half an hour, during which 27 runs were added. Mr Trott was tried at 193, but Wood completed his 50 at 4.25, and a few minutes later the second hundred went up. Eleven more runs were added, and then a brilliant return catch disposed of Bowley and closed the innings for 211. Wood took out his bat for a capital 55, in which were two fours, six threes and nine twos. He was batting rather less than two hours.

The Australians, who were 48 ahead, went in a second time at 5 o'clock. Messrs Worrall and Ferris began the innings to the bowling of Beaumont and Bowley. Mr Bowden kept wicket. Only three runs were scored when Mr Worrall had his wicket disturbed by a good ball from Beaumont. Mr Edwards arrived, but after his partner had made four by a cut, he was out to a catch in the slips by Henderson, who took the ball very close to the ground. Two for eight. Messrs Blackham and Ferris then played out time, the Australians with eight wickets to fall being 63 runs ahead.

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 September, page 12)

Surrey have played three matches against the Australians with most disastrous results. Curiously, both defeats were sustained on good wickets, so that those who wished to see the champion county once more pitted against the Australian team on turf more or less true have been sorely disappointed. It was indeed a severe blow for the county to be beaten a second time. Another peculiarity was that the fixture should have been the first and last on the programme. There must be some distress of mind among the members of the club, for the county that is manifestly superior to all has failed to perform a feat that has been accomplished by Gloucestershire, Nottinghamshire, Sussex and Lancashire.

From first to last the third match was most keenly contested, and a long time has elapsed since there were three such excellent days' cricket. With the score at so interesting a stage on Friday evening, it was not surprising to find the company even more numerous than on either of the previous days. On Saturday the approaches to the Oval were thronged with vehicles of all descriptions, while on the ground itself there were fully 12,00 people. The weather proved beautifully fine.

The prospect of the early morning betokened a draw, but with the fall of the third Australian wicket came something of a collapse. The Surrey fielding in several instances did not come up to their form. Beaumont's badly missing Mr Bonnor seemed likely to prove serious. Directly after his escape the great Australian batsman began to hit with vigour. To Mr Bowden, however, belongs the credit of getting rid of the most dangerous batsmen. By two brilliant catches in the long field he secured both Mr M'Donnell and Mr Bonnor, and he certainly proved himself worthy of his place in the eleven for his fielding alone.

When the last Australian wicket fell Surrey had 172 to obtain for victory and three hours and a quarter to play. Lohmann's sprained foot was so much better that he bowled with considerable success. The county began their task in anything but a hopeful manner, and the end of an hour found five good batsmen out for 26 runs. Henderson and Maurice Read put a better complexion on

affairs, and while Lohmann stayed there was a probability of the Englishmen winning. But he left when 44 were yet wanted. The chances were all against the probability of a repetition of the Wood and Beaumont performance; indeed the last two wickets added only nine runs. The Australians played with that dogged determination which is their characteristic, but neither side could claim to have fielded up to its reputation.

The Australians, who had lost two wickets (Messrs Worrall and Edwards) for 15 runs, began their second innings at 20 minutes past 11. Messrs Blackham and Ferris, the not-outs, were opposed by Beaumont and Bowley; Wood kept wicket. Mr Blackham soon grew busy. In the course of three overs he cut and drove Beaumont for three and four, and altogether 16 runs were added, when he had a narrow escape in the slips, Lohmann just failing to reach the ball. Mr Ferris then sent Bowley to leg for three, and after Mr Blackham had driven Beaumont to the boundary, the latter gave way to Mr Walter Read. The lob bowler met with no success. Mr Ferris pulled him for four, and 50 was completed at a quarter to 12. Mr Blackham next made seven in three hits, from one of which, however, he was nearly caught in the long field by Henderson. Twelve runs had been made from Mr Read in three overs, when he gave way to Lohmann, who still showed signs of lameness. From the new bowler Mr Ferris made seven in two hits; but at 68 the separation was effected, a "bailer" from Bowley sending back Mr Blackham. A capital stand had been made, the partnership realizing 60 runs.

Mr Bannerman joined Mr Ferris, who cut Bowley twice in one over for four each, causing Mr Shuter to put on Beaumont at that end at 77. This alteration immediately proved effective, as with only a single added Mr Bannerman was easily caught at extra slip. Mr Ferris next had Mr Trott for a partner. The latter opened with three and two on the leg side, but then the play became quiet. Meanwhile Lohmann had been bowling very well. He eventually found the wicket slightly broken at the gasometer end, and at 84 he sent Mr Ferris out by a good ball which struck the off stump. The left-handed batsman had hit vigorously and well for 39. Five for 84.

Messrs Bonnor and Trott were now associated. Neither could get the ball away to any extent. When Mr Bonnor had made four he was badly missed by Beaumont at mid-off from a skier, the Surrey fieldsman although misjudging the catch. With his next ball Lohmann clean bowled Mr Trott, and six wickets were down for 95. Mr Lyons arrived. Mr Bonnor drove Lohmann to the off and on boundaries, bringing up the 100 at ten minutes to 1. Four runs later Mr Lyons was taken at slip, the ball going into Lohmann's hands off the wicket-keeper, who really should have made the catch. Mr M'Donnell came next. Without addition Mr Bonnor was brilliantly caught by Mr Bowden, who took the ball running from long-on.

When Mr Turner joined his captain, the latter drove Lohmann twice in succession to the boundary, but in the following over his dismissal was brought about by another very fine catch by Mr Bowden. The ball was hit to a tremendous height, but Mr Bowden judged the catch to perfection and made it close to the boundary under the Press Stand. He was loudly applauded and also congratulated by his companions for this, his second great catch. Nine for 112. Mr Jarvis, the last man, arrived. In an over from Lohmann Mr Turner scored four by a leg hit and a couple of twos by drives. At 123, however, the dismissal of Mr Jarvis ended the innings. Time, 1.20.

With 172 necessary for victory the county entered on their second innings at 2 minutes to 2. The original order was not adhered to, and Mr Bowden and Abel were the first to face Messrs Turner and Ferris. The bowlers kept a good length and the first three overs proved maidens. Before a run had been scored Mr Bowden should have been stumped by Mr Jarvis, but his escape did not gain him anything, for in his third over Mr Ferris bowled him by a good ball which broke in and took the

off stump. One down and no run scored was not a hopeful start for Surrey. Mr Key, who followed, quickly hit Mr Ferris to the leg boundary, but this item was succeeded by several maidens. Subsequently, three byes and a leg hit for three by Mr Kay raised the figures to ten before luncheon.

At a quarter to 3 Messrs Ferris and Turner were again intrusted with the attack. The first ball Abel returned to the bowler and Mr Walter Read aided Mr Key. The former soon hit Mr Ferris to leg for four, and after some smaller contributions, he sent him in the same direction with a like result. Mr Ferris, however, had his revenge, for at 25 with two successive balls, he got Mr Read out to a running catch at long-on and Mr Key leg-before. Four for 25. The partnership of Mr Shuter and Maurice Read lasted seven overs. During this time Mr Shuter nearly ran himself out, and only a single was added to the score. Then the Surrey captain was bowled and half the wickets were down for 26. Thus, there was little prospect of Surrey saving the game.

Henderson and Read, however, made a determined stand. Eight runs were scored in an over of Mr Turner's, including a late cut for four by Henderson, but then the play became very quiet. Thirteen overs produced 15 runs, and at a quarter to 4 the 50 was telegraphed. Henderson elicited loud applause by hitting a full pitch from Mr Ferris to the square-leg boundary. Mr Boyle now took Mr Blackham's place in the field, the latter having injured his side. As the batsmen appeared thoroughly set, Mr Trott was given a trial at 62 in lieu of Mr Turner. In his first over Mr Worrall missed Henderson at long-on. A couple to each batsman raised the figures to 72, and Surrey now had 100 still to get with an hour and a half to play. Mr Lyons took the ball at 72, but Read drove him to the on boundary. At 77, however, the last-named was dismissed by a ball which got up quickly from the pitch and went into point's hands off the shoulder of the bat. Fifty-one had been added in as many minutes. Six for 77.

Lohmann came in. He scored a three from each end, and at 91 Mr Turner resumed bowling. In his first over he sent back Henderson, who had played very well. Seven for 92. Wood joined Lohmann, and Mr Ferris again took the ball. Lohmann quickly hit him to leg for four, the 100 going up amid loud cheers at 4.25. Lohmann batted with great vigour. He drove Mr Ferris for four and obtained several smaller hits from the other end. Mr Worrall made a determined attempt to catch him in the long field, and directly afterwards he gave a difficult chance to Mr Bonnor at the opposite end. At length, at 128, he was caught at cover-point, having scored his 36 in a little less than half an hour. Eight down. With three added Wood was bowled, and Beaumont, after batting patiently for a few overs, was taken at slip, the innings ending at 5 o'clock for 137. Thus the Australians won by 34 runs.

At the finish several thousand people assembled in front of the pavilion and cheered lustily for the various players.

Tuesday 25 September, page 10: CRICKET

The season now closed provided a striking contrast to that of 1887, when heavy scoring was the rule, as it has been the exception this year. Batsmen, however, on the occasion good wickets they had, made most of their opportunities, and the general averages come out much better than at one time seemed probable. Those given below are obtained from all matches which come under the category of "first-class" - viz., the important engagements of the Marylebone Club, the eight leading counties, the Australians and the Universities, and Gentlemen v Players and North v South.

It has been distinctly a bowler's season, and time after time the scoring in many of the big contests has been incommensurate with their character. At Lord's good wickets were indeed rare, match after match being utterly spoiled by the rain. The University contest did not escape the bad weather, and although a fourth day was devoted to it rain necessitate an abandonment.

Unlike last year, there is no extraordinary batting such as Shrewsbury, the Nottinghamshire professional, accomplished. Dr W G Grace ranks second in the list of batting averages, his aggregate being more than 1,800 runs. His bowling tactics – one might say generalship – have at times too been very successful. Surrey claims the proud position of having one of their players at the head of each batting table. Mr Walter Read showed that he still retains his excellent defensive abilities, while Abel's consistently good form has not unexpectedly given him first place among the professionals. The bowling bears the closest inspection, Lohmann's figures being especially remarkable.

[Note: season averages can be found at [Cricket Archive](#).]

Yesterday the Australian cricketers, with the exception of Messrs Bonnor, Turner and Trott, embarked on board the Orient steamer Cuzco on the return voyage to Melbourne. The special train conveying them to Tilbury was fixed to leave Fenchurch-street at half-past 11.

Some time before this a large company assembled at the terminus of the Tilbury and Southend Railway to bid farewell to the cricketers. Mr J W Hobbs, the Mayor of Croydon, who, it will be remembered, entertained the eleven at his seat, Norbury-hall, Streatham, when they arrived in May, was among the first to meet them at the station. It may be mentioned that he has presented to each of the team a painting representing the match at Norbury-park. Among others on the platform were Messrs Fred Gale, C A Smith, G Brann, W W Read, C E Green (the Essex county captain), C W Alcock, Goodwin, H H Hyslop, G Railton and others.

The train left the platform amid the hearty cheers of the company. Many of the latter journeyed to Tilbury and bade the final farewell on board the Cuzco. The members of the team who left were Mr P S M'Donnell, the captain, Mr J M'C Blackham, Mr J J Lyons, Mr A H Jarvis, Mr J H Edwards, Mr J J Ferris, Mr H J Boyle, Mr J Worrall, Mr A C Bannerman and Mr S P Jones. Mr C W Beal, the manager, was unable to start in consequence of indisposition. Messrs C T B Turner and H Trott stayed behind with him. These gentlemen will join the Cuzco either at Plymouth or Naples. The team will play several matches in Australia before finally disbanding. Mr Bonnor remains in England.

On behalf of the side, Mr M'Donnell expressed their satisfaction at the great welcome that had been accorded them during the whole of their tour, which would always carry with it the most pleasant recollections. The weather was very fine and presented a striking contrast to that experienced when the men landed at Dover at the beginning of the season.

Yesterday this cricket council held their annual meeting in the pavilion of the Marylebone Club at Lord's. There were present – Lord Harris, Kent (in the chair); Messrs W H C Oates, W E Denison and E E Brown, Nottinghamshire; Messrs A J Webbe and J G Walker, Middlesex; Messrs J B Wostinholm and M J Ellison, Yorkshire; Messrs C W Alcock, J Shuter and W W Read, Surrey; Mr M Turner, Sussex; Mr S H Swire, Lancashire; Dr W G Grace, Gloucestershire; Dr R Bencraft, Hampshire; Messrs W Ansell and W H Bainbridge, Warwickshire; Mr A Smith, Derbyshire; Mr M P Betts, Essex; Mr H Murray-Anderson, Somerset; Messrs J Burdett and J Bonnor, Leicestershire; Mr J Horner, Cheshire; Mr C Pigg, Hertfordshire; Mr J P Kingston, Northamptonshire; and Mr P Toynbee, Staffordshire.

Lord Harris, in moving a resolution relating to the county boundaries, said that there were one or two counties that would be materially affected by the Local Government Bill. He mentioned the cases especially of Kent and Surrey. He had made an attempt to obtain good legal opinion as to whether the birth or residential qualification would be affected, but no such opinion was forthcoming. If a person be liable to serve on a jury or rated it would argue that he is resident in the county of London. In the face of this he thought it best to move the resolution, which would prevent any difficulty that might arise. It was as follows: - "That for purposes of county cricket boundaries are not affected by the Local Government Act, 1888."

Mr Ansell (Warwickshire) said the new act would add some 100,000 residents to Birmingham, and wished to know whether that fact would give his county a wider field for the selection of cricketers.

Lord Harris, however, pointed out that his resolution was moved with the idea of keeping the boundaries for cricket as they were at present.

Mr Wostinholm (Yorkshire) thought it the best policy they could adopt and, on the motion being put, it was carried unanimously.

Mr J G Walker, on behalf of Middlesex, wished to know if he should be in order in moving the following amendment to the resolution on the agenda paper (subsequently discussed) – viz., "That before taking action with regard to any of these proposals a committee, representing five different counties, be appointed to discuss and report to this council what, if any, alterations are in their opinion required in the rules of county cricket at present existing."

The chairman ruled that he was in order, but on the amendment being put to the meeting it was lost.

Mr M Turner (Sussex) then brought forward the following resolution: - "That any cricketer who shall have played for a county for a period of three years under the residence qualification shall be qualified to play for that county for any period or number of years he may choose (although he may have removed to and be then residing in another county) unless he break his qualification by playing for another county (for instance, the county of his birth or the county in which he may then reside)."

The subject, he said, was not a new one, having been brought forward some two years ago at a meeting, but owing to an informality it was not discussed. His committee believed that the proposition would be to the interest of county cricket and of cricket generally. Incidentally he mentioned the name of Mr W Newham, who had lived in Sussex quite 15 years, but who, should he lose his residential qualification, would be unable to play for them. He advocated strict

qualification, but was certain that his proposal was to the good of the game. When a player lost his residential qualification he was relegated to an obscurity from which he seldom emerged.

Lord Harris formally seconded the resolution.

Mr Webbe said that great trouble had been taken some years ago to form the existing rules, and he thought it was a pity to disturb them.

Mr Denison said that the feeling in Nottinghamshire was against the proposition. It was not to the interest of county cricket that the alteration should be made.

On being put to the meeting the motion was lost.

Mr Turner then moved – “That during the two years a cricketer may be qualifying to play for another county under the residential qualification he should be allowed to play for the county for which he as previously been playing under that rule.”

Mr Denison said that the resolution had the same objection as that which had been negatived, and Mr Webbe thought it made it far too easy for a man frequently to change his county.

The motion was then put and carried.

Mr Horner, on behalf of Cheshire, then moved that – “A cricketer shall be qualified to play for any county in which he is residing and has resided for the two previous seasons. In the event of his having played once for the county of his birth, or other county, he must either have the sanction of such county or have had no request for his services from such county for two consecutive seasons before becoming eligible to play for another county.” This was lost.

Mr A Smith (Derbyshire) brought forward a resolution which, at the suggestion of Mr Denison, was altered to the following: - “If a cricketer born out of the United Kingdom comes to England and makes his permanent home in any county, he shall be allowed to play for that county on his giving a written declaration, to be approved by the Marylebone Club, that his permanent residence is in such county. Should he change his residence to another county he shall be subject to the usual residential qualification.”

Mr Denison, in seconding it, said it was no secret that the proposition had reference to Mr F R Spofforth’s having taken up his residence in Derbyshire, and he certainly thought it a hardship for a cricketer of Mr Spofforth’s ability to be debarred from county cricket.

Mr Shuter objected to the motion, and pointed out that cricketers might be brought over here and secured practically by the highest bidder.

Mr Webbe said that some of the members of the last Australian team, Mr Turner for instance, might be introduced here; and, while he sympathized with Derbyshire, he alluded to the hardship of Middlesex last year with regard to Phillips, the Melbourne Club bowler.

Dr W G Grace observed that he was sorry for Mr Spofforth, whom he should like to see in county cricket, but he humorously remarked that Gloucestershire might possibly secure the services of Messrs Turner and Ferris by getting good appointments for them.

The resolution was lost by a large majority, as was the following, also proposed by Derbyshire: -
“When a professional cricketer plays for any county, either under the birth or residential qualification, the season during which he so plays shall be excluded from the period of residence necessary to qualify him to play for any other county.”

Lord Harris was re-elected president, and Mr A J Webbe the hon. secretary and treasurer, having resigned, a committee was appointed to elect a successor.

The Devonshire and Northumberland County Clubs were affiliated to the Council.

In answer to Mr A Smith, Lord Harris thought it undesirable to reopen the question of “leg before wicket.”

A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

THE MEETING OF COUNTY SECRETARIES

In the pavilion at Lord's yesterday the secretaries of the county cricket clubs held their usual meeting for the arrangement of the coming season's fixtures. Mr H Perkins, the secretary of the Marylebone Club, occupied the chair.

The popular match of North v South will be played on four occasions – at Lord's, the Oval, Manchester and Scarborough. Three benefit matches will be played – North v South, at Lord's, for John West; Surrey v Yorkshire, at Sheffield, for L Hall; and North v South, at Manchester, for R Pilling. The fixture of Kent v Middlesex for Whit Monday is an improvement in the programme at Lord's, in which the Oxford and Cambridge, Eton v Harrow and Gentlemen v Players matches take their usual places. The Canterbury Week contests are Kent v Middlesex and Kent v Gloucestershire.

A feature of the Surrey list is a match at Oxford against the University. The two matches between Derbyshire and Lancashire have not been renewed. The Gentlemen of Philadelphia will again visit England, after having played matches in Ireland and Scotland. Unlike their previous engagements, which were mostly limited to two days, their matches will extend into the third day.

A complete list of the fixtures is as follows: -

[Note: these can be found through
http://www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Seasons/1894_ENG.html]