

Saturday 20 April: THE COMING SEASON

Although the season of 1889 will not be marked by the visit of an Australian team, there is to be a little variation on the purely English programme in the shape of a tour of Philadelphian cricketers. These gentlemen were over here in 1884, when they made what may be termed a holiday trip. In that year their matches were limited to two days, but in the approaching summer they will be extended to three. Now, as then, they will meet only amateurs.

The team leave New York on June 10, and are expected to reach Dublin on the 28th of the month. There they will play two matches – one against the Trinity College Long Vacation Club and the other with the Gentlemen of Ireland. They will next be opposed by the Gentlemen of Scotland at Edinburgh, after which will follow their various engagements in England. Any profits that may accrue to them from the matches the Americans intend to hand over to some philanthropic institution connected with cricket.

At the MCC the programme arranged is of the usual extensive character. The plan of playing the two fashionable matches – Oxford v Cambridge and Eton v Harrow – in separate weeks has again been adopted. First in order comes the University match on July 1, and the Public Schools contest is to be decided on the Friday and Saturday of the following week. The Gentlemen and Players meet on July 8. The inability to get representative teams of North and South for Whit Monday caused Marylebone last year to play a match between colts of the two divisions. This season a departure has been made, and Middlesex meet Kent on that day.

The leading counties that played against Marylebone at Lord's are Lancashire, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Sussex and Kent, in addition to which there are Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Hertfordshire, Somerset, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Cheshire, Wiltshire, Glamorgan and Northumberland. Oxford and Cambridge meet Marylebone on their won grounds and play the returns at Lord's; the Dark Blue fixture in London (limited to two days) is arranged for Friday and Saturday, instead of Thursday and Friday as hitherto. Pearce has got the turf in good order, and with the relief for practice afforded by the acquisition of the "nursery," capital wickets should be forthcoming.

Marylebone in their out-matches, beyond playing counties of minor importance, adhere to their excellent policy of visiting the public schools and playing local teams in all parts of England. Forty-two professionals constitute "the ground" – viz., T 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, F Hearne, Attewell, Parnham, Burton, Pickett, Wootton, Davenport, Pentecost, Titchmarsh, Chatterton, West (Middlesex), Martin, Pougher, Rawlin, A Hearne, Davidson, W A J West, Carlin, Shacklock, Phillips, Dunkley and Hulme.

The annual meeting will be held in the Pavilion on May 1, when the alterations in the laws of cricket proposed last year, but postponed in order to get the sense of the counties upon them, will be brought forward. They are as follows: - "Law 13. – The ball shall be bowled in overs of five balls from each wicket alternately. Law 14. – The bowler shall be allowed to change ends as often as he pleases provided only that he does not bowl two overs consecutively in one innings. Law 52. – On the last day of a match, and if a one-day match, at any time the in side shall be empowered to

declare their innings at an end.” Plans for a new pavilion have been prepared.

Not many years since, the matches between North and South ranked among the most interesting of the season; but the title was brought into requisition so often that the public wearied of it, and except as a Bank Holiday fixture at Lord’s it gradual fell out of the programme. This year there has been so great a revival that some risk is run of its again becoming hackneyed. No fewer than six of these games are to be played. That at Lord’s, on May 27, will be devoted to the benefit of John West, who, apart from his services as one of “the Ground,” is so often selected to umpire in important matches. Pilling, whose wicket-keeping has contributed so greatly to the success of Lancashire, will have the contest played at Manchester on July 11, while the Sussex veteran, J Lillywhite, receives a benefit at Chichester. The three other North v South matches will be played at the Oval, Scarborough and Hastings.

Mr H Philipson, who captains the Oxford University team will have five of last season’s eleven left – Mr W Rashleigh, Mr H W Forster, the Hon F Thesiger, Mr A C Croome and Mr F H Gresson; and possibly Lord G Scott, Mr G Fowler and Mr E T Simpson. To fill whatever number of vacancies there may be the Dark Blues have a very good selection. The prominent Seniors are Mr A K Watson, Mr C Wreford-Brown, Mr G L Wilson, Mr E Smith and Mr E H St Hill. Among the Freshmen are Messrs M Jardine, G Cuming and C R H Gresson. Mr Jardine has a great reputation from Fettes, where he was captain last year. He headed the batting with an average of 77.7 in 13 innings; highest score, 115. He was also first in bowling; he secured 24 wickets at a cost of 6.3 runs each. Mr Cuming, a fast left-hand bowler, captained the Clergy Orphan School, Canterbury, where he took 124 wickets for an average of 4.11.

Visitors to the Parks will find a novelty in the pavilion. It has been panelled with oak, on which the names of all Oxford elevens since the first inter-University match have been cut. After the usual Freshmen’s and Seniors’ matches the eleven meet the Gentlemen of England on May 20. Surrey will again play at Oxford, the return being contested in London on June 24. Their other engagements prior to the University match at Lord’s are two with Marylebone and two with Lancashire.

At Cambridge there are eight Old Blues in residence – Mr F G J Ford (captain), Mr S M J Woods, Mr E M Butler, Mr H J Mordaunt, Mr G McGregor, Mr E Crawley, Mr R C Gosling and Mr H Hale, while Mr F Thomas is also available. The most likely Seniors include Mr E A de Little, Mr W A R Young, Mr J S Robinson, Mr C P Foley, Mr G H Cotterill, Mr W J Rowell, Mr E A Wilson and Mr A Martineau. The Light Blues have also a strong contingent of Freshmen – Mr V F Leese, last year’s captain at Winchester, where he was the most successful bat with an average of 31.2 in 12 innings, highest score 101; Mr F C Yate-Lee, who at Eton averaged 36.2 in six innings; Mr F E Woodhead, from Loretto, who averaged 30.8 in 18 innings, highest score 75; he was also third in bowling with an average of 10.12. There are besides Mr A H Harrison, Westminster; Mr R A A Beresford, Oundle; and Mr A Ross, Bath College.

The programme includes a match against England (captained by Mr C I Thornton), the Gentlemen of England (captained by Mr A J Webbe), and the only two Marylebone fixtures. Yorkshire is the only county team which will meet them on their own ground, but they play Surrey at the Oval and Sussex at Brighton.

County cricket will, of course, form the chief feature of the season. Every effort will be made by Surrey to retain the proud position they have occupied for the past two years. The Oval itself has

undergone further improvements, not the least of which has been the laying down of an asphalt path, which will greatly add to the comfort of visitors. Although several important football matches have been played quite late in the season on it, the turf is fast recovering, and it is hoped that the usual good wickets will be provided.

Mr M P Bowden, who occasionally kept wicket for Surrey and distinguished himself in this position for the Gentlemen of England at Lord's, continues at the Cape. To compensate for this, however, Mr W E Roller, whose health has been renewed in Australia, is expected home in time for cricket. During his stay in the colonies he has been in practice, having played for the University Club at Sydney. The county have also at their disposal Messrs W W Read, J Shuter and K J Key, with Abel, Maurice Read, Lohmann, Henderson, Wood, Bowley and Beaumont. Sharpe, a fast bowler, and Nottinghamshire by birth, is now qualified by residence, and will in all likelihood have a good trial for the county. There are several amateurs and professionals who may be utilized for some of the minor matches.

The programme at Kennington is lengthy. They play two matches with Oxford University and one at the Oval against Cambridge. The Gentlemen and Players meet during the latter part of the Oxford and Cambridge week, while there is a North and South fixture in the middle of May. Surrey, who are not engaged on July 18, will probably place a strong eleven in the field against the Philadelphians. Besides the home and return matches with Kent, Yorkshire, Gloucestershire, Lancashire, Nottinghamshire, Middlesex and Sussex, there will be two engagements with Hampshire, Leicestershire, Essex and Derbyshire. Nottinghamshire again play at the Oval on the August Bank Holiday.

Nottinghamshire open their season, as usual, on Easter Monday. It is said that there are several fast left-hand bowlers among the aspirants. Bennett, of Sutton-in-Ashfield, and Jackson, of Basford, are both likely to be county men, batting being their forte. The eleven will be greatly strengthened by having Shrewsbury, who after an absence of two years will again appear before his townsmen. Irish cricketers have a keen appreciation of Nottinghamshire professionals, and Barnes and Flowers have both been fulfilling engagements with them. The other members of last year's eleven – Mr H B Daft, Mr J A Dixon, Gunn, Attewell, Sherwin, Scotton, Shacklock and Richardson – will also be available. Mee, the right-hand fast bowler, is to have a further trial in the county eleven. Brown, a colt who was played on three occasions last year, and Lockwood and Carlin may again be tested. With such promise the county are sanguine that instead of being sixth on the list they may be able to run the southern county close for first honours.

The turf at Trent-bridge is in splendid condition. As usual, the eleven will appear at Lord's against the Marylebone Club and Ground, and in order further to try any new men a match will be played at Nottingham on June 3 between the home colts and Yorkshire colts. The Surrey matches occupy the two Bank Holidays – Whit Monday at Nottingham and at the Oval in August. Their other customary fixtures comprise out and home matches with Lancashire, Middlesex, Sussex, Kent, Yorkshire and Gloucestershire. Their engagements with the neighbouring county of Derbyshire have been renewed. At one time it was thought probable that a match with Cambridge would be arranged, but it will not be played, at any rate, this season. The eleven pitted against the colts on Monday are as follows: - Mr H B Daft, with Attewell, Barnes, Flowers, Gunn, Mee, Richardson, Sherwin, Shrewsbury, Scotton and M Wright.

With the idea of securing the assistance of all their amateur batsmen, the Kent executive have

arranged most of their matches to be played late in the season. Indeed from the 1st of August to the close of the month cricket has been provided for every day, and no fewer than nine county matches will be decided during that time. All the gentlemen who played last year will again be at the service of the county. It is not known in what matches Lord Harris will be able to take part. The county will have a strong list from which to select their elevens, increasing Mr W H Patterson, Mr W Rashleigh, Mr C J M Fox, the Rev R T Thornton, Mr F Marchant, Mr L Wilson, Mr J N Tonge and Mr M C Kemp. The last-named gentleman, who is a master at Harrow, will not be able to play until August. The professional element is also strong, increasing G G Hearne, F Hearne, A Hearne, Walter Wright, Wootton, Martin and Pentecost.

Colts are to be invited to Blackheath for a fortnight's trial, dating from Monday next. Any of promise are to be put into the second eleven matches, and if good enough will subsequently get a trial for the county itself. These test practices are to be conducted under the direction of the managing committee, to whom a sum not exceeding £100 has been voted for the purpose of carrying out the scheme. Bowling talent will be especially watched for.

The programme includes out and home matches with Gloucestershire, Lancashire, Middlesex, Yorkshire, Sussex and Nottinghamshire. At Canterbury the festival will comprise two matches of sterling merit – the returns with Middlesex and Gloucestershire. It is the first time that the western county has, independently, taken part in "the Week," although Dr W G Grace has often been seen on the St Lawrence ground in such contests as Marylebone v Kent and Kent and Gloucestershire v England. At a meeting of the committee held a short time since it was decided that on this occasion Dr W G Grace should be entertained at a complimentary banquet to be held under the auspices of the Kent County Club.

The Surrey match will be played at Blackheath, while Nottinghamshire will appear at Beckenham. The charming ground in the Mote-park, Maidstone, will be the scene of the Lancashire and Yorkshire contests, and the Sussex fixture is to be decided at Gravesend. At Town Malling the Gentlemen of Kent are to receive a visit from the Philadelphians, while the Marylebone match will be played at Lord's in the latter part of the week preceding Whit Monday.

The prospects of Lancashire are hopeful. Mr A G Steel will most likely play frequently for the county, and the Rev J Napier, who made such havoc among the Australian wickets last season, is expected to give his county more assistance. The bowling will be reinforced by Mold, the Northamptonshire fast bowler, who is qualified by residence. Ward, from Leyland, a Yorkshireman by birth, may prove valuable in the batting department. In addition to any young colts that may come to the front there will be the usual large numbers of amateurs and professionals from which to make up the elevens, including Mr A N Hornby, captain, Mr S M Crosfield, Mr J Eccles, Mr E E Steel, Mr O P Lancashire and Mr R W Kentfield, with Briggs, Pilling, Barlow, Ward, Robinson, Yates, Watson, Sugg and Baker.

They start the season with a visit to Lord's on May 9, where they meet the Marylebone Club and Ground. The Derbyshire matches disappear from the list. They journey to Oxford at the end of May, and the Dark Blues play the return on June 20th. Their engagements comprise out and home matches with Sussex, Middlesex, Kent, Nottinghamshire, Surrey, Gloucestershire and Yorkshire. Cheshire are to be met twice, while matches have been arranged with Warwickshire and Leicestershire, neither of which counties appeared in last year's programme. The match selected to be played at the Aigburth ground, Liverpool, is against Gloucestershire.

Old Trafford, on which the whole of the others are to be decided, is thickly covered with grass, and

it is expected that some splendid pitches will be obtained. During the winter a presentation was made to Mr S H Swire, the honorary secretary, who has been actively associated with Lancashire cricket for a quarter of a century.

The season in the western county of Gloucester will be notable for the fact that they take possession of their new ground. It is situated at Ashley Down, near Bristol, and is in first-rate order. Thus Gloucestershire will enjoy the undoubted advantage of having their own headquarters. The ground will be utilized for the first time on Monday for the trial of 22 colts. The county matches to be played on it are with Warwickshire, Lancashire and Sussex; and it has also been selected for the fixture with the Philadelphians. The permanent ground will not monopolize all the home contests, as the county play also at Cheltenham College, Clifton College and Gloucester. For the "Week" on the first-named ground, two very attractive fixtures have been planned – viz., Surrey at the beginning and Middlesex at the close.

Altogether the team has 16 engagements, as follows: - Out and home matches with Kent, Lancashire, Middlesex, Nottinghamshire, Surrey, Sussex, Yorkshire and (for the first time) Warwickshire. Unless any great ability is discovered among the colts the eleven will be constituted much the same as last year. Dr W G Grace, who enters on his 26th season, will of course captain the side. He will be assisted by his brother Dr E M Grace, Messrs O G Radcliffe, F Townsend, G Francis, W Troup, E Peake, J H Brain, H V Page, E L Griffiths, A H Newnham and W W F Pullen, with Painter, Woof and Roberts. It is quite likely that Mr J Cranston will play.

Mr A J Webbe will again captain Middlesex. Of the other members of last year's team, Mr E H Buckland, who is now a master at Winchester, cannot play in the early matches. As a valuable set-off to this, however, the eleven will be strengthened by the return of Mr A E Stoddart, who supplemented his cricket visits to Australia by playing throughout their football season. He has definitely taken up his residence in England and will be able to play in all the county matches. It is said that, in addition to his excellent batting, he has developed bowling qualities of no mean order. It is probable that the Hon Alfred Lyttelton will take part in the Whit Monday match at Lord's, and also some of the later engagements. The county will be aided by Mr P J de Paravicini, Mr J G Walker, Mr J Robertson, Mr T C O'Brien, Mr H W Bryant, Mr G F Vernon, Mr S W Scott, Mr E M Hadow, Mr E A Nepean, Mr F G J Ford and others.

Rawlin, the Yorkshire bowler who has been on the ground staff at Lord's for several seasons, is now qualified by resistance, which should materially improve the attack of the county. The other professionals are J E west, Burton and Dunkley.

With the exception of Derbyshire, the county contests are the same as last season; viz., out and home engagements with Gloucestershire, Surrey, Kent, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Nottinghamshire. They figure in two "Weeks," as the return with Kent forms the opening fixture at Canterbury and their return with Gloucestershire will occupy the second part of the Cheltenham Week.

Yorkshire are determined that no stone shall be left unturned to discover any latent talent that may be in the county. Six colts' matches in different parts of the shire will be played, besides the game with the colts of Nottinghamshire. In all there are 33 items on the card, the chief of which are their engagements at Lord's against Marylebone, against the University at Cambridge, and out and home contests with Middlesex, Sussex, Gloucestershire, Surrey, Kent, Lancashire and Nottinghamshire.

Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Warwickshire and Cheshire will also be met.

The Surrey match at Sheffield on July 1 will be for the benefit of Hall. Bramall-lane is, of course, the headquarters of the club, but the other large towns require recognition and, like Kent, the matches are distributed over different parts of the county – Halifax, Bradford and Huddersfield.

Yorkshire have plenty of batting and bowling, but their greatest requirement is a good wicket-keeper, a post which in the absence of J Hunter they found much difficulty in filling last season. D Hunter, his brother, it is said, is the most likely candidate.

The loss of Mr C A Smith, the captain of Sussex, who remains at the Cape, will be severely felt by the county. With this exception, however, the team is to be formed very much on the same lines as last year. Mr W Newham (Mr G Goldsmith's successor in the secretaryship), Mr E J M'Cormick, Mr G Brann, Mr J M Cotterill and Mr F H Gresson are among the amateurs. The professional element will also be greatly strengthened by the assistance of Bean, who has completely recovered from the effects of the accident which prevented his playing after one innings last year. The other men at liberty are W Humphreys, Quaife, J Hide, A Hide, Tester, H Phillips, Major and Tate.

They twice meet all the lading counties except Middlesex. They will also play their customary match with Marylebone at Lord's, while their Hampshire fixtures are renewed. Ten days prior to the University match they contest the Cambridge eleven on the home ground, and they have also a game with the Philadelphians. The wickets are always so good at Brighton that no anxiety need be felt in this respect.

Leicestershire's conspicuous victories over the Australians and Surrey last season have caused them to be hopeful for the future. The eleven on most occasions will consist of Mr H T Arnall-Thompson, Mr C E de Trafford, Mr C Marriott, Mr C C Stone, with Wheeler, Rylott, Dexter, Tomlin, Pougher and Warren. The two last-named have both commenced their engagements. At the county ground, Aylestone-road, a new pavilion is being erected and the turf is in first-rate order. They have matches against Marylebone on the three days following Oxford and Cambridge, while an important addition to the list is the meeting of Lancashire twice. Besides a few minor fixtures they have out and home matches with Surrey, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Warwickshire and Essex. A cricket Week commences on the first Monday in August.

It was hoped that the counties would allow Mr F R Spofforth, the celebrated Australian bowler, to appear for Derbyshire, but as he is not yet properly qualified for residence it is doubtful whether he will appear in the inter-county matches. A fairly good programme has been arranged, Surrey, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire figuring on it twice. There will be two matches each with Leicestershire and Essex, and they also visit Lord's. The death of Cropper, their good all-round professional, will be keenly felt by the side.

The Warwickshire team will vary little from last year's, as all the old cricketers are at liberty – Messrs H W Bainbridge, H C Maul, L C Docker, C C Mott and H O Whitby, with Shilton, Pallett, Collishaw, Law, Richards and [Lilley].

The Hampshire side will be very much the same as last season. Mr F E Lacey again acts as captain, but the county loses the assistance of Mr E G Wynyard, who has gone to India. Messrs H W Forster, F Meyrick-Jones and other well-known amateurs will play. The Essex fixture has been

dropped and the Warwickshire match substituted, while they also meet the Philadelphians. The club is now freed from the debt incurred in forming the new ground, and has every chance of prosperity.

Essex, with the advantage of their headquarters being within easy reach of London, should have plenty of visitors to the Lyttelton ground at Leyton. Beyond the numerous Club and Ground fixtures, their list comprises out and home matches with Surrey, Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Hertfordshire. They once meet Somerset and Marylebone, both at Leyton.

Cheshire play out and home matches with Lancashire, Yorkshire, Northamptonshire and Staffordshire, while they also meet Marylebone at Lord's. No new talent has been discovered, and the eleven will be very like that of last year.

Hertfordshire again oppose four counties – Surrey (a team), Essex, Northamptonshire and Norfolk. The return with the last-named, on August 21 and 22 at Hertford, will be for the benefit of Pearce. The match with Marylebone, which last year fell through owing to the weather, will be played the second week in August. Small as the programme is, the engagements extend over three grounds, Bishop's Stortford, Hitchin and Hertford. The gentlemen who are at the disposal of the committee are the Rev C M Sharpe, Mr F B Debenham, Mr H G Tylecote, the Rev W H Heale, the Rev H E Thursby, Mr A Butcher, Mr E Crawley, Mr E L Smith, Mr C Pigg, Mr H Pigg, Mr G M Jones and Mr W H Nicholls. The six professionals are W Hearn, Pearce, Titchmarsh, Morris, Jeeves and Johnstone. The last-named, of St Albans, a fast bowler, who last season took 12 wickets at an average of 12 runs each, may probably prove of valuable service to his county.

It is anticipated in Northamptonshire that the ensuing season will show an improvement on its predecessors. The county ground has been renovated and the wickets should be good. The players will most likely be Messrs C C Marshall, J A Turner, J P Kingston, G H Kingston, T G Beal and T H Welch, with Ball, Colson, Harris, West, Foxley and Alley. Of course the county have sustained a loss in Mold, the fast bowler, who plays for Lancashire under the residential qualification. They appear at Lord's at the end of July, and also meeting Cheshire, Staffordshire, Hertfordshire and Northumberland.

Norfolk have a very similar programme to that issued in 1888, and will again rely chiefly on their amateurs. Staffordshire is still striving for a place among the counties of lesser importance, and Somerset will be able to place a good eleven in the field. Another club that is forcing its way is Northumberland, while Durham have also several interesting fixtures. Lincolnshire have started a county club and, if distinguished patronage will aid it, it should be most successful. The president is the Earl of Yarborough, and the vice-presidents are the Earl of Oxenbridge, the Earl of Winchelsea, Lord Aveland, Sir John Astley, Mr E Stanhope, MP, Mr Henry Chaplin, MP, and many other prominent gentlemen in the county.

A complete list of the season's fixtures is as follows: -

[Note: these can be found in http://www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Seasons/1889_ENG.html]

ALTERATION OF THE LAWS

Last evening the members of the leading club held their 102nd annual meeting in the pavilion, at Lord's. There was a very large attendance, including Lord George Hamilton, the Earl of Bessborough, Lord Lyttelton, Lord Wenlock, Lord Winterton, Sir S Ponsonby Fane, Hon E Chandos Leigh, Mr H Perkins, Mr A J Webbe, Mr Denzil Onslow, Mr W Nicholson, Dr Jones, Mr A W Ridley, Mr A Rutter, Mr C I Thornton, Mr T C O'Brien, Mr M C Kemp, Mr E M Hadow, Mr P J de Paravicini, Mr Udall, Mr E L Bateman, Mr I D Walker and Mr C Gurdon.

The report of the committee showed that last year 3,100 members paid as against 3,033 in 1887; abroad, 184; life members, 220 – total, 3,513. In 1888 30 members died and 13 retired. The whole of the purchase-money for the nursery has been paid and the club is entirely free from debt. The racquet court has been put in through repair and will now compare favourably with any other. New lights have been put in the roof of the tennis court and other improvements made in the ground.

During the past season 147 matches were made; of these 75 were won, 23 lost, 44 drawn and five abandoned owing to the weather. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Justice Chitty, Sir E Grey and Mr MacLaren (treasurer of the Lancashire County Club) have been elected supernumerary members under Rule 9. The match list for the present season has been framed on the usual lines, but North v South will be resumed and the proceeds given to John West. The Gentlemen of Philadelphia, who again visit this country, will play at Lord's on July 22.

A new pavilion will be commenced in September, to be ready for the use of members at the beginning of next season. It having been found that on the average only one out of three candidates for membership is properly proposed and seconded according to Rule 8, the committee have decided that in future "no candidate be entered in the books unless his name and address and the names of his proposer and seconder have been previously sent in writing to the secretary."

The Earl of Winterton, Messrs E L Bateman, S Bircham and A G Steel retire by rotation from the committee. To fill these vacancies there were nine candidates – viz., the Duke of Buccleuch (the retiring president), Viscount Anson, Lord Hawke, Messrs A W L Hemming, James R Mellor, F Lee, A W Ridley, John Shuter and A Rutter. These were balloted for, with the result that the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Hawke, Mr A W Ridley and Mr J Shuter were elected.

The report and ballot sheet were adopted.

After the disposal of the club's general business the meeting was made special to consider suggested alterations in the laws. Mr H Perkins brought forward the proposed new rules, and after a discussion in which Mr Denzil Onslow and Lord Lyttelton spoke, the alterations were made *seriatim* and carried as follows: -

- (1) To substitute five balls an over for four.
- (2) A bowler may change ends as often as he likes, but cannot bowl two overs in succession.
- (3) On the last day of a match, and in a one-day match at any time, the in-side may declare their innings at an end.

The annual dinner was afterwards held in the members' dining hall, at which the Duke of Buccleuch nominated Sir Henry James, Q.C., M.P., as his successor in the presidency of the club.

Friday 10 May, page 10: SURREY COUNTY CLUB

Last evening, in the pavilion at Kennington Oval, the club held their annual general meeting. Viscount Oxenbridge, the president, held the chair and there was a large muster of members.

The committee in their report expressed their pleasure to be able to state that the proud position which the County Eleven gained in 1887 was more than maintained last summer. In all 26 matches were played, of which 19 were won, three drawn and four lost; two of the defeats were by the Australians, and the others by Lancashire and Leicestershire.

The programme for the coming season will be home and home matches with Derbyshire, Essex, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Kent, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Middlesex, Notts, Sussex, Yorkshire and Oxford University; one match will, as usual, be played with Cambridge University at the Oval. In addition to the annual match between Gentlemen and Players, a fixture has also been arranged between North and South. The proceeds of the Lancashire match will be given to G Jones; and the Gentlemen of Surrey will also play the Gentlemen of Philadelphia at the Oval.

Nearly 500 new members were elected during the year, and at present the club numbers over 2,700. The committee felt sure that the members of the club had received with much regret the announcement of the death of H Jupp, one of the best and most popular cricketers the county has ever produced. It is proposed to take steps to erect a suitable memorial over his grave in recognition of his invaluable services to the county, and also, if deemed advisable, to present a sum of money to his only son to start him in business.

The balance sheet showed the gross receipts to be £20,602 19s 4d, which included £6,011 13s brought over from 1887. The most important items were: - Subscriptions, £3,150 8s; match receipts, Surrey v Australians (three), £2,489 10s; England v Australians, £1,547 16s; football matches, £2,158 11s 3d; and stands, £356 6s 3d; cricket stands, £1,365 6s; while the match with Nottinghamshire on the August Bank Holiday and following days yielded £599 3s 6s.

The payments for match expenses were £6,422 11s 1d, which included £1,476 5s 3d for the three Surrey v Australian matches, England v Australians, £906 6s; Players v Australians, £472 1s 6d. The general expenses (including grants and donations) were £1,337 7s 11d; ground expenses, £3,539 16s 2d; and buildings, £1,702 16s 4d. The satisfactory balance of £7,213 4s 9d remains in hand.

The report was unusually adopted.

The election of officers was then proceeded with as follows: - Patron, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales; president, Viscount Oxenbridge; vice-president, the Earl of Bessborough; hon. treasurer, Mr Wildman Cattley; secretary, Mr C W Alcock; and assistant secretary, Mr W W Read. The following member of the committee, who retired by rotation, were re-elected: - Dr Blades, Mr F Burbidge, Mr W Burrup, Mr G Carter Morrison, Dr E B Jones, Mr D R Onslow, Mr L A Shuter and Mr W S Trollope.

The usual vote of thanks to the chairman and also to the secretary (Mr C W Alcock) brought the proceedings to a close.

9 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3425.html)

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

This match began at Lord's yesterday. In the absence of Dr W G Grace, through illness, Mr J Shuter captained the home side . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 11 May, page 14)

Heavy rain in the early morning of yesterday caused play in this match at Lord's to be delayed until nearly 1 o'clock. On the previous evening Lancashire had completed an innings for 189, and Marylebone had lost three wickets for 56.

The latter closed their innings yesterday at ten minutes past 4 for 131. Lancashire, with 58 runs to the good, started their second venture . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 13 May, page 12)

At Lord's, on Saturday, the Lancashire eleven had a victory almost within their grasp. Rain, however, came on earlier at St John's-wood than in other districts of the metropolis and prevented their following up their advantage. At a little past 4 o'clock it was decided to draw the stumps. Thus Lancashire were deprived of an almost certain victory, as Marylebone still wanted 149 runs to avert defeat and had only four wickets to fall.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3426.html)

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

A strong team under the captaincy of Mr Thornton visited Cambridge yesterday to meet the University eleven. The rainfall has been so great that a start could not be made until five minutes past 4.

England, who had won the toss, sent in Mr A J Webbe and Pilling. Messrs Woods and Ford opened the attack. The score rose steadily to 30, when Pilling was bowled. Mr Nepean joined Mr Webbe, and an hour and five minutes' batting produced 61 runs. Rain now stopped play, and at 5.30 stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 15 May, page 11)

This match was continued yesterday at Cambridge. The last wicket of the visitors did not fall until 294 runs had been amassed. The Light Blues began badly, losing two wickets for 11; but affairs were improved by Messrs Gosling and Mordaunt.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 16 May, page 11)

At the drawing of stumps on Tuesday evening England had accumulated 294 runs as the result of an innings, while four Cambridge wickets were lost for 66. Yesterday the result left the England team victorious by an innings and 139 runs.

13 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3427.html)

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

The turf at Lord's had been so affected by the rain yesterday that it was decided to defer the commencement of this match until 11 o'clock this morning.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 15 May, page 11)

Although the weather was so fine yesterday, the turf at Lord's had not sufficiently recovered from the wet to admit of play. This match was therefore abandoned to the great disappointment of a large number of people who visited St John's-wood.

Wednesday 15 May, page 11: MR SPOFFORTH AND HIS DERBYSHIRE QUALIFICATION

The secretary of the Marylebone Club has requested us to publish the following: - The attention of the committee of the MCC having been called to the fact that Mr Spofforth is to play on the 20th of the month for Derbyshire in the match between the County and the MCC, and that Mr Spofforth is not qualified to play on behalf of Derbyshire, the committee think it right to place on their minutes that Mr Spofforth is allowed to play as a concession to Derbyshire, and that such permission may not be regarded as a precedent in any way affecting the rules relating to the qualification of county players.

Thursday 16 May, page 11: MR SPOFFORTH AND HIS DERBYSHIRE QUALIFICATION

It is stated that, in view of the resolution passed by the MCC and the difficulties which have been raised in other quarters, Mr Spofforth has informed the Derbyshire committee that he shall decline to appear in any of their matches except those against Yorkshire, who have given an unconditional assent to his playing against them.

Communications have been received from the Surrey Club offering to make no objection if the side is called "Derbyshire, with Mr Spofforth," and they have also asked Mr Spofforth to play for North against South at the Oval. Mr Spofforth, it is said, regards the qualified assent as an inducement held out to him to play in this match, and has declined to do so. Notts have also required that if he plays against them the team should be styled "Derbyshire, with Mr Spofforth," and he refuses to appear in this way.

16 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3428.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 May, page 10)

Dr W G Grace was sufficiently well to appear at Lord's yesterday for the first time this season. He captained a fairly strong Marylebone side against Sussex. In spite of the fine weather of the last three days the turf at headquarters is still heavy, and yesterday it was quite a "bowler's wicket" . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 May, page 15)

At Lord's yesterday the Sussex eleven had little difficulty in beating Marylebone. The match was won by seven wickets.

16 May: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3492.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 17 May, page 10)

The old title of North v South has not lost its charm, for, although the teams were not so powerful as could be wished, there was a large number of spectators at the Oval yesterday. The turf at Kennington has not yet recovered from the severe rains, and the wicket greatly assisted the bowlers.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 May, page 15)

A most unaccountable collapse of the Southern batsmen brought this match to an early close yesterday at Kennington Oval. Although there had been no rain, a heavy dew had fallen, and the wicket was again all in favour of the bowling. At the drawing of stumps on Thursday the South had completed an innings for 68, and nine Northern batsmen were out for 127. At 11.35 Carlin accompanied Attewell to the wickets, but was taken at slip for the addition of a single. Total, 128.

The South, who were 60 runs behind, opened their second venture at noon with Henderson and Maurice Read. Peel (western end) and Attewell bowled throughout. From the full score appended it will be seen that the North won by an innings and 25 runs.

20 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3430.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 May, page 10)

Marylebone sent down an eleven yesterday to meet the Light Blues at Cambridge. The visitors won the toss and took possession of a slow wicket at a quarter to 1. They started badly, losing Messrs Leese and Robinson for 20.

Hearne and Mr Wright improved matters and added 48 before the professional was bowled. Afterwards wickets fell rapidly, the last going with the total at 104. Mr Wright, who had an escape at mid-off when he had made 25, batted steadily, and among his hits were two fours and five threes.

Cambridge opened their batting with Messrs Foley and Cotterill. The latter obstructed his wicket. Mr Gosling joined Mr Foley, and the partnership produced 77 before the latter was dismissed; his chief hits were a four and six threes. Mr Gosling did not long survive him . . .

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

The team from headquarters, which was not so strong as could have been wished, quite failed to hold their own yesterday at Cambridge. On the previous day Marylebone were disposed of for 104, while the Light Blues were nine runs ahead, with seven wickets in hand. The remainder of the side added 62 in an hour and ten minutes.

Marylebone proved unable to cope with the bowling of Messrs De Little and Woods in their second venture, and were ultimately defeated by an innings and ten runs.

20 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3431.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 May, page 10)

Nottinghamshire opened their season yesterday at the Trent-bridge Ground with a match against Sussex. Owing to an injured knee Sherwin was unable to play, and his place at the wicket was taken by Carlin, who showed pretty good form at the Oval last week.

Mr Dixon won the toss and went in with Shrewsbury. The bowling was intrusted to Bean and A Hide. The start was no hopeful, as the amateur was got rid of when eight runs only had been recorded. Gunn and Shrewsbury were now together and, although the bowling was repeatedly varied, they added 100 runs prior to the interval. Afterwards the total was rapidly advanced to 168, when Gunn was bowled. In his chanceless innings, which occupied two hours and a quarter, were five fours, two threes and ten twos.

Barnes came, and Shrewsbury completed his 100 with the score at 185. His innings was at length closed by a smart catch at wicket; he had been let off in the long-field when he had made 21. His principal figures were eight fours, three threes and 12 twos. Barnes batted well and the venture realized 277. Sussex went in for a little time . . .

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

Delightful weather was again experienced yesterday at Nottingham, when these counties continued their match on the Trent Bridge Ground. At the drawing of stumps on the previous evening the home team had accumulated 277 runs in their first innings and the visitors had scored a dozen without the fall of a wicket.

Four batsmen were dismissed for 36, and then J Hide and Humphreys became associated. The latter saw the downfall of the rest of the side for a total of 93, he having played steadily.

In the follow on Sussex showed the ability to play an up-hill game, for which they are noted. After the disposal of Quaife, who returned the ball at nine, Mr Newham and Major kept together for nearly two hours. During this time they batted carefully and added 66 runs. The latter was then bowled. Mr Newham was the eighth to leave – stumped. His 59 occupied three hours and a half, and included three fours, three threes and eight twos.

Shrewsbury had to retire owing to an injury to his hand, sustained while fielding the ball from a hit of Mr Newham's.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 May, page 10)

The position of the score on Tuesday night in this match at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, left scarcely any doubt as to the ultimate result. Nottinghamshire were left the winners by an innings and 42 runs.

20 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3432.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 May, page 10)

A fairly strong team of the Gentlemen visited Oxford yesterday under the captaincy of Mr A J Webbe. Dr W G Grace was to have formed one of the Twelve; but he was unable to play, and therefore there were the usual eleven a side.

Successful in the toss, the University sent in Messrs Gresson and Philipson. Mr Bacmeister, of Middlesex, and Mr Shand, an Old Harrovian, who has been abroad, were the bowlers. The batting was rather feeble, as seven wickets went for 65 at the interval, and subsequently the remaining three only added 18.

For the visitors Messrs Webbe and Nepean, after the fall of Mr Thornton's wicket, took the total from four to 71. Mr Robertson, who came eighth in the order, hit vigorously and twice drove the ball over the ring for six each time; he also obtained three fours and three threes. The University went in a second time . . .

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

Under the captaincy of Mr A J Webbe the Gentlemen of England yesterday more than maintained the advantage gained by them over the Dark Blues on Monday. There was a large attendance in the Parks, Oxford, when the game was continued.

Mr Gresson batted splendidly for the University, and was not dismissed until the deficit on the first innings had been rubbed off. Among his hits were six fours, three threes and five twos. Messrs Jardine and Croome also met with considerable success, and the Gentlemen had to go in again with 65 to score for victory. Messrs Webbe and Nepean, as on the first day, showed excellent form, and eventually the Gentlemen of England won by six wickets.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128232.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 May, page 10)

Mr F R Spofforth, the celebrated Australian bowler, did not avail himself of the decision of the Marylebone Club with reference to his qualification, and at Lord's yesterday he was content to view the game from the pavilion seats. Sunday's rain had left the ground at headquarters saturated, but the sun and wind quickly improved matters.

Marylebone went in first, and their innings lasted two hours and a half. Mr Pontifex showed capital form for his 30. Derbyshire started well, but with the dismissal of Chatterton at 45 their batsmen were disposed of quickly, the last seven making only 26. Marylebone went in a second time . . .

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

There was an exciting finish to this match at Lord's yesterday afternoon. On Monday evening Marylebone had slightly the better of the play, as, with eight wickets to fall in their second innings, they were 56 runs ahead. The remaining batsmen added only 37, and Derbyshire went in again to get 94 for victory.

Mr Morby and Chatterton started well and scored 47 for the first wicket. Seven wickets fell for 16, after which Hulme hit vigorously, and when the last man arrived the scores were even. Amidst much excitement Burrowes gained the necessary run, and Derbyshire won by a wicket.

20 May: SURREY v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128224.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 May, page 10)

Some heavy and curious scoring was witnessed in this match, which began yesterday at Kennington Oval before a fairly large number of spectators. Owing to the soft condition of the turf, a start was not made until half-past 12.

Surrey then sent in Maurice Read and Wood to the attack of Messrs Bishop and Burrell. The batting soon had the mastery, and it was not until 61 had been reached that Wood was caught at cover-point. Abel joined Read and, in spite of the attack being changed, the 100 was reached at ten minutes to 2 o'clock. After luncheon Read, who should have been caught at long-off by Sewell, was stumped from the next ball. Among his hits were a four, three threes and 17 twos.

The ninth wicket went for 153, and then Sharpe assisted Lohmann. The bowling was changed and re-changed. The 200 was reached at 4.25, and Lohmann, who hit with the greatest freedom, was clean bowled by the next ball. He was also missed at long-on by Mr Womersley when he had made 32. His chief hits were 13 fours, three threes and 11 twos. Essex began batting at ten minutes to 6 .
..

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

Essex were unable to offer any great resistance to the Surrey attacks at Kennington-oval yesterday, and suffered defeat by an innings and 100 runs.

20 May: LEICESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128239.html)

Day 1 (no report from Tuesday 21 May, page 10)

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

This is a new fixture in the cricket programme, and it may be noted that both counties overthrew the Australians last season. The match began at the County Ground, Leicester, on Monday, and ended in a victory for Lancashire yesterday by nine wickets.

23 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v A J WEBBE'S XI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3433.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 May, page 10)

The former team, who were strengthened by Walter Wright, began their match with the Light Blues yesterday in fine weather at Cambridge.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 May, page 15)

With so heavy a deficit as 274 against them it was not expected that the Light Blues would yesterday be able to avert a single-innings defeat at Cambridge. They fared better at their second attempt, but the bowling of W Wright, the Kent professional, again proved very effective, with the result that the Gentlemen of England were victorious by an innings and 164 runs.

Mr Cotterill played with great care and was in nearly an hour for his ten. Messrs Woods, De Little and Wilson hit with some freedom, but the earlier batsmen did not contribute many runs.

23 May: LANCASHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3434.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 May, page 10)

After their reverse at Nottingham the southern county went further north and yesterday began their match against Lancashire at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester. The visitors were first placed on their defence . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 May, page 15)

A numerous company witnessed the continuation of this match at Manchester yesterday. When stumps were drawn the previous evening Lancashire, having dismissed their opponents for 159, had made 104 for seven wickets. Pilling and Baker advanced the score to 137 prior to the former's dismissal, and ultimately the total reached 160, five in excess of Sussex.

The visitors went in a second time shortly before luncheon. Quaife played steadily; but, after he was bowled at 32, several batsmen quickly left. Humphreys and Bean, however, made a stand, and their partnership yielded 48 runs. Afterwards four wickets fell for five runs, and Lancashire were left with only 103 to obtain for victory. When rain stopped the game the score stood as under . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 May, page 11)

From the state of the game on Friday evening in this match, at Manchester, there seemed some probability of a good finish. On Saturday, however, the wicket at Old Trafford played easier than might have been expected. Sugg and Ward, the not outs with one and eight respectively, were opposed, shortly before noon, by Tate and Bean.

Sugg hit vigorously, and the figures rapidly travelled to fifty, when A Hide superseded Tate, while J Hide soon went on. These changes, however, did not check the run-getting, and when half an hour had elapsed 43 were added. Humphreys next bowled, while, later, Tate was again tried, and this last alteration proved effective. At 95 Sugg returned the ball and Ward was bowled, both wickets falling in one over. During the morning 65 runs had been scored in 50 minutes. Sugg hit brilliantly, making five fours, four threes and a two. Ward played steadily and well, and his repeated successes have quite justified the high opinion formed of his batting abilities when he first appeared at Lord's this season.

Mr Crosfield and Briggs then obtained the remaining runs, and Lancashire won by five wickets. Owing to a slight injury, Phillips relinquished the post of wicket-keeper to Mr Dudney.

23 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3435.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 May, page 10)

In addition to Shrewsbury there were absent from the visitors' team at Lord's yesterday Mr Dixon, Gunn, Richardson and Sherwin. Until late in the afternoon the weather was fine and a large number of people visited headquarters.

Nottinghamshire went in first on a good wicket. After Mr Beves and Scotton had raised the figures to 23 the batsmen were dismissed rapidly, and six were down for 39. Barnes was then joined by Flowers, and the pair by steady cricket raised the figures to 77. Carlin stayed while 29 were added, but the longest stand of the day was by Barnes and Mee for the last wicket, when 66 were put on. Barnes took out his bat for a fine innings of 90, which had occupied three and a half hours. Throughout his hitting was very clean, but in making his last 40 runs he was thrice missed; his chief items were seven fours, five threes and two twos. A thunderstorm delayed the Marylebone innings until 20 minutes to 6.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 May, page 15)

The fine weather of yesterday attracted a large company to Lord's. It will be seen by the appended score that Marylebone won by seven wickets.

23 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3436.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 May, page 10)

Yesterday, at Oxford, Surrey, who were strongly represented, began their match in the Parks against the University eleven.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 May, page 15)

Mr Key's brilliant innings was the great feature of the match between the Dark Blues and Surrey, which terminated at Oxford yesterday. The close of Thursday had left the county with a formidable advantage, as against the home score of 98 they had made 229 for the loss of five wickets.

Mr Key and Henderson contributed more than half the runs of the Surrey total of 387. Their partnership for the [sixth wicket] produced 148 runs. Henderson, who was caught at mid-off, played a capital innings, the chief items of which were seven fours. Mr Key took out his bat for 176; he was in three hours and a half and among his hits were two sixes, 18 fours, nine threes and 21 twos. He did not give a chance until at 91, when Gresson missed him at point; subsequently he had escapes at slip and short leg.

In Oxford's second innings Mr Rashleigh showed fine form, and included in his hits were a five, five fours and five threes. The score subjoined will show that Surrey won by an innings and 183 runs.

23 May: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128227.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 24 May, page 10)

The permanent ground of the Gloucestershire Club at Bristol was yesterday utilized for an important match for the first time. During the last two or three seasons Warwickshire have striven hard for a prominent place among the counties, and yesterday they met Gloucestershire.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 25 May, page 15)

Warwickshire, who had rather the better of the first day's play in this match on the county ground at Bristol, quite maintained their advantage yesterday. At the end of the first innings they held a lead of 36.

Rain considerably interfered with yesterday's play, and on the wet wicket several of the visitors scored freely. Mr Docker showed capital form, and subsequently Shilton and Bird added 42 for the eighth wicket, while the former with Lilley afterwards played out time.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 May, page 11)

The uncertainty of cricket received an illustration in this match, which terminated at Bristol on Saturday, when a good eleven of the western county was beaten by Warwickshire. On a wicket spoilt by rain, Gloucestershire had to go in, to obtain 194 – a somewhat formidable total for a [fourth?] innings to realize at any time. Shilton's vigorous hitting on Friday evening and Saturday morning proved invaluable to the visitors; in his 53 were five fours, three threes and five twos.

Gloucestershire started their second venture badly against the bowling of Pallett and Shilton. Mr W G Grace soon returned the ball, and four other wickets had fallen by the time the figures had reached 42. Messrs Brain and Townsend then became partners. By excellent batting they added 40 runs, and the bowling was twice varied before Mr Brain was dismissed. Subsequently Mr Murdoch batted with considerable success, but in spite of the several spirited attempts of the home side, Warwickshire ultimately won by 68 runs.

27 May: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3437.html)

Monday 27 May, page 11

Representative elevens have been chosen to take part in this match, which begins to-day at Lord's. It is for the benefit of John West, the well-known Yorkshire professional who, for many years, has been attached to the Marylebone ground staff and is one of their most trusted umpires . . .

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

Yesterday was set apart for the opening of the North v South match (for the benefit of John West) at Lord's. The heavy rains, however, rendered the turf quite unfit for cricket, and in the afternoon it was decided to abandon the game altogether.

30 May: LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3438.html)

No reports or scorecards found on Friday 31 May or Saturday 1 June

Day 3 (scorecard but no report on Monday 3 June, page 7)

30 May: MIDDLESEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3439.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 May, page 10)

There was cricket at Lord's yesterday for the first time since last Friday in consequence of the heavy rains. Yesterday's wind and sun, however, rapidly dried the turf, although the wicket throughout played treacherously. Both counties were well represented, Shrewsbury being, however, a notable absentee.

Middlesex won the toss and Messrs Stoddart and Webbe opened their batting. Against the bowling of Attewell and Richardson the side fared badly, and the last wicket fell at 54.

Nottinghamshire lost Mr Dixon and Gunn for 29, but then Scotton and Barnes made a capital stand, adding 39 runs. The 100 was reached with four wickets in hand. Subsequently the score was raised to 134, the innings closing at a quarter to 6. Middlesex, with a deficit of 80, went in a second time, and at the start lost four good batsmen for 11 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 June, page 16)

Against the bowling of Attewell and Richardson the Middlesex batsmen met with little success, and yesterday they lost their first match, Nottinghamshire winning by an innings and seven runs.

31 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3440.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 May, page 10)

At Oxford yesterday the Dark Blues were opposed by a strong Lancashire team. Mr W Rashleigh was absent from the home side, and his place was filled by Mr G L Wilson.

Oxford went in first. On a slow wicket they started badly, losing Mr Philipson, their captain, and Mr F H Gresson before either had scored. After two slight delays through rain, Messrs Jardine and Watson became partners, and for some time they offered a spirited resistance to the Lancashire attacks. Mr Watson left at 38. Mr Jardine, however, continued to show excellent form, and he and Mr Smith put on 48 for the eighth wicket. Mr Jardine was then bowled for a faultless innings of 54. Lancashire started well, Mr Hornby hitting with all his old vigour.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 June, page 16)

Although at one time yesterday there seemed some prospect of Oxford making a good match against Lancashire, the county eventually won easily.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128237.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 31 May, page 10)

Surrey had a powerful eleven yesterday to meet Leicestershire at Kennington-oval. The weather was fine and a good wicket had been prepared.

Having won the toss, the home team went in, and at half-past 4 the innings closed for 224. Leicestershire started admirably, and the 100 was signalled after 90 minutes' play.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 June, page 16)

There was a large attendance at Kennington-oval yesterday.

Day 3 (report from Monday 3 June, page 7)

At the end of Friday's play in this match at the Oval Surrey's success was pretty well assured. From the full score attached it will be seen that Surrey won by 144 runs.

31 May: ESSEX v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128521.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 1 June, page 16)

Mr A P Lucas played a brilliant innings of 103 for Essex against Marylebone at Leyton yesterday.

Day 2 (report from Monday 3 June, page 7)

Dr W G Grace played a fine innings of 71 for the visitors in this match at Leyton on Saturday, and his hits were five fours, eight threes, five twos &c. The batting of Mr Lucas and Owen on the first day had given the county so great an advantage that victory was almost within their grasp.

Marylebone, who followed on in a minority of 137, had lost seven wickets with still 21 runs wanted to prevent the innings defeat when stumps were drawn.

3 June: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3441.html)

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

Yorkshire sent their full strength to Cambridge yesterday to meet the University Eleven. The weather was fine and the wicket in good order. The county won the toss, and completed their innings for a total of 208. So far the University have batted well . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 June, page 12)

There was some free hitting in this match, continued yesterday in fine weather at Cambridge.

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

The scoring in this match at Cambridge has been curiously even. There were four complete innings, each of rather more than 200, and the Light Blues, though they led on the first, were ultimately beaten by 11 runs. On Tuesday evening Cambridge were left with an innings to play and 221 to obtain for victory, a formidable task against such good bowling as is possessed by Yorkshire.

Messrs Mordaunt and Foley opened the batting, and they were opposed by Peel and Middlebrook. After Mr Mordaunt had been let off at cover-point the figures were taken to 21. Mr Foley was then caught at wicket, and a couple later Mr Mordaunt hit the ball back to Middlebrook. Mr Gosling scored nine (including a cut for five) before being bowled. With three wickets down for 38 the outlook for Cambridge was not bright.

Messrs Thomas and Ford, however, made a spirited stand. Both gentlemen hit brilliantly and the 100 went up after an hour and 20 minutes' play. In spite of frequent changes in the attack, the score reached 134 prior to the bowling of Mr Ford. Ninety-six runs had been added during the partnership. In the Cambridge captain's 43 were four fours and five threes.

Mr E Crawley was soon disposed of, while at 163 Mr Thomas's brilliant innings was closed by a catch at slip. Among his contributions were seven fours and five threes. Messrs Butler and Hale further improved matters, and after their dismissal there was free hitting by Mr Hunter. The last wicket, however, fell at 209, Yorkshire winning an exciting match by 11 runs.

3 June: MIDDLESEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3442.html)

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

Between 4,000 and 5,000 people visited Lord's yesterday to witness the opening of the Middlesex v Gloucestershire match. Middlesex had a strong side; but not so the western county, who were without some of their best players – Dr E M Grace, who has met with an accident, and Messrs Townsend, Page, Brain, Peake and Pullen being all absent.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 June, page 12)

This match was resumed at Lord's yesterday. At the close of Monday's play the western county wanted 112 to avert an innings defeat with ten wickets in hand. At a quarter to 7 Middlesex won the match by seven wickets.

3 June: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3443.html)

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

A late start was made in this match, played for the benefit of J Lillywhite, at Priory-park, Chichester, yesterday, as it was 20 minutes past 1 o'clock before the South, who had won the toss, went to the wickets. These they retained possession of for the rest of the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 June, page 12)

Delightful weather was again experienced at Chichester, in the above match played for J Lillywhite's benefit. The South occupied Monday with an innings of 250. Against this large number the North started batting at 12 o'clock. Half the wickets produced 111 runs; but when the interval had been taken Lohmann's bowling was so effective that the remaining five only added 48.

Following on in a minority of 91, the outlook at first was rather gloomy. Gunn and Mr Daft slightly improved matters . . .

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

Yesterday's excellent cricket furnished a pleasant surprise to visitors at the charming ground in Priory-park, Chichester. When play ceased on Tuesday evening the North had followed on and had lost four wickets while there was still a deficit of 39 runs.

Gunn and Mr Daft, the not-outs, with 28 and five, resumed the game at a quarter past 12. Lohmann and Martin shared the bowling. A dozen runs only had been added before Mr Daft was taken at mid-on. Briggs and Gunn, however, rapidly advanced the figures. The innings defeat was soon averted, and though the bowling changes were frequent, the batsmen had increased the score by 70, when at length Gunn fell to a catch at mid-on. He was in two and a quarter hours; among his hits were four fours, a three and 12 twos. Briggs, after giving a chance in the long-field, was taken at short-leg for a vigorous 48, in which were seven fours. Flowers was soon stumped, and at the interval the score stood at 150 for eight wickets. Subsequently Paul and Attewell showed good form, and at 20 minutes to 4 the innings closed for 187.

The South went in to obtain 97 for victory. Abel and Maurice Read obtained 40 for the first wicket in less than half an hour, the latter then being bowled. Quaife stayed until 77, when he fell to a catch at slip, after which Mr Newham and Abel secured the necessary runs, and the South won by eight wickets. In Abel's excellent innings were six fours, four threes and four twos.

6 June: LANCASHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3444.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 June, page 6)

After their victory over Gloucestershire in the early part of the week, the Middlesex eleven visited Manchester, and yesterday began a match with Lancashire. The visitors won the toss, and soon after 12 o'clock Messrs Stoddart and Webbe began batting on a fiery wicket. Briggs and Mold were the bowlers.

When only five runs had been scored Mr Stoddart was secured at mid-off. On Mr Scott joining Mr Webbe, however, the outlook improved. Having added 24, the former fell to the dexterity of the wicket-keeper. Messrs Nepean and Walker were bowled and Mr Vernon caught at slip. Half the wickets were now lost for 44. Mr Webbe, who had been batting in the most careful manner for an hour and 25 minutes, during which time he had only scored 17, was got rid of by a fine ball from Mold. Mr Hadow and West batted well for a little while, but at luncheon nine wickets were lost for 78. Afterwards Burton hit freely, while Mr Bacmeister played carefully for a few overs. With the score at 96, however, the latter was bowled.

Lancashire fared even worse than their rivals. Mr Hornby and Barlow were opposed by Burton and Mr Bacmeister. When only a dozen runs had been made the home captain was bowled, and Mr Eccles came in. The scoring was slow but, after the latter was dismissed, 50 was reached with only two wickets lost. Then came a rapid downfall, mainly through the bowling of Mr Nepean.

Middlesex went in a second time, with an advantage of 22. After the dismissal of Mr Webbe and Mr Scott, Messrs Walker and Stoddart played out time. The weather was fine and several thousand people were on the ground during the afternoon.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 June, page 12)

An interesting day's cricket was witnessed by a large number of spectators in this match yesterday at Old Trafford, Manchester. When play ceased on the previous evening the visitors, with a balance of 22 runs in hand, had lost two wickets in their second innings for 33.

Yesterday Messrs Stoddart and Walker were opponents by Mold and Briggs. When 16 had been added the former handed the ball to Watson. The separation came from the other end, Mr Walker being secured by the wicket-keeper. Three for 59. Mr Nepean joined Mr Stoddart, who continued to hit freely. Although the attack was varied, the 100 was completed at a quarter to 1. With 15 added Mr Stoddart drove the ball hard and was caught in the long field. He had been batting nearly two hours, and his principal figures were six fours, four threes and ten twos. Mr Nepean was caught in a similar way. Mr Vernon played well for a little time before being bowled, but the rest did little and the innings ended for 168.

Lancashire now required 191 to win, and eight of these were made before luncheon. Afterwards Messrs Hornby and Eccles faced the attacks of Burton and Mr Bacmeister. The former gave way to Mr Stoddart, who bowled Mr Hornby at 33. Barlow, who had been slightly injured, joined Mr Eccles, and Mr Bacmeister gave up the ball to Mr Nepean. After being let off in the slips Mr Eccles was eventually bowled. Barlow obstructed his wicket and ward was quickly dismissed. Four for

66. Sugg and Mr Crosfield caused a double variation in the attack, Burton and Mr Bacmeister resuming the charge of it. At 88 Mr Crosfield fell to a catch at wicket.

Briggs joined Sugg, and hearty cheers greeted the signalling of the three figures with only five wickets down. The chances of the home side were greatly lessened by the running out of Briggs, who was similarly got rid of in the first venture. The ninth wicket fell at 132, and thus, when Watson and Mold became associated, they were still wanting 59 for victory. These batsmen played so well as to hold out some hopes of success to their side, but at 159 the latter was bowled. Thus Middlesex were victorious by 31 runs; and, having defeated Gloucestershire on Tuesday at Lord's, they concluded a satisfactory week's cricket.

6 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3445.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 June, page 6)

Lord's was sent to great advantage yesterday when Kent and Marylebone began their annual match. The weather was all that could be desired, and the cricket, if unproductive of high scoring, was thoroughly enjoyable. Lord Hawke captained a Marylebone side of average strength, while Kent, although they lacked the aid of several of their best players, notably Lord Harris, Mr W H Patterson and Mr Kemp, placed a good eleven in the field.

Within a few minutes of noon, the brothers F and A Hearne opened the county's innings to the bowling of Flowers and Hulme. Both batsmen were out for nine runs, but matters improved with Mr Fox and G G Hearne as partners. Runs were added steadily, and at 36 Rawlin relieved Hulme. Flowers, however, secured the wicket, as at 48 the professional returned the ball. When Mr Tonge arrived the 50 was reached, but Hulme clean bowled Mr Fox at 58. The last-named had shown capital form.

Four wickets were now lost, and several others were speedily captured. Mr Marchant made one good hit (a drive for four) before Hulme bowled him, and at the same total (68) Mr Tonge succumbed to a catch at the wicket. Neither Wright nor Wootton gave much trouble, the eighth wicket falling just prior to luncheon for 84. After the interval the last two batsmen managed to raise the score to three figures. Pentecost was the tenth to leave, bowled by Flowers at a quarter past 3. Total 104.

Marylebone started badly; Lord Hawke and Mr Pontifex were out for 12, and Gunn and Chatterton were together. Both played with great care, and 20 runs were signalled as the result of 30 minutes' batting. Subsequently each made a fine hit to the boundary. However, Chatterton and Gunn were out leg-before in successive overs, making four wickets down for 30. Mr Littlewood and Flowers for a considerable time offered a spirited resistance, causing the attack to be several times varied. The 100 was reached at ten minutes past 5, but four runs later three wickets fell. Seventy-four had been added for the fifth when Flowers was bowled, while in the following over George Hearne, with the first two balls he sent down, brought about the dismissal of Mr Littlewood and Rawlin. Seven for 104. The remaining batsmen added 26, the innings closing at 5.55.

Kent went in a second time at a quarter past 6. After the dismissal of A Hearne at four, F and G Hearne quickly hit off the deficit . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 June, page 12)

After the storm of Thursday night the wicket at Lord's played much better yesterday than might have been anticipated. The cricket proved of great interest, the brilliant hitting on the Kent side contrasting strongly with the even and quiet play of the previous day. Except for a storm towards the close of the afternoon the weather was fine. The game had been left in a level state overnight; Kent had begun their second venture in a minority of 26, and had made 45 for the loss of A Hearne's wicket.

F and G Hearne, the not outs with 32 and 11, were opposed yesterday at 11.35 by Flowers and

Hulme. F Hearne made a large proportion of the runs, but at 70 Gunn captured him in the long field, taking the ball with his left hand. The retiring batsman had shown excellent form, his cuts and off-drives possessing much brilliancy. His chief items were seven fours, four threes and three twos. Two for 70.

When Mr Fox arrived the 100 was quickly reached, and although there were changes in the bowling the third wicket produced 54 in a little over half an hour. Hulme then beat Mr Fox with a ball that kept low and struck the off stump, while ten runs later the same bowler sent back Mr Tonge. Mr Marchant arrived and at once began to hit freely. When he had scored 15, however, he gave a difficult chance to Hulme at cover-point, and had the fielding been a little less uncertain both batsmen might also have been run out. Mr Marchant continued to hit brilliantly, while G G Hearne, although playing with great steadiness, seldom lost an opportunity of punishing a bad ball. Shortly before luncheon the 200 was reached.

Subsequently the score still rose at a fast rate, in spite, too, of many changes in the attack. Mr Marchant, with his figures at 70, was let off by Mr Maude in the long field, a mistake by which he profited little, for he had made only two more when Gunn secured him at long-on. This is not the first dashing innings played by Mr Marchant at Lord's; among other performances his fine batting for Eton against Harrow in 1883 will be easily remembered. He was in two hours, and included in his hits were six fours, two threes and 12 twos. The partnership had realized 127 runs. Five for 261.

Without addition Wright fell to a catch at slip, and with the exception of Mr Northcote none of the others gave any assistance to G Hearne, who carried out his bat for a fine innings of 84. He went in first wicket down, and his play throughout was characterized by that care for which, as a left-handed batsman, he is noted. Among his hits were one five, nine fours, two threes and eight twos.

Marylebone required 274 to avoid defeat, a formidable task against the Kent bowlers. A thunderstorm delayed a start until 5 o'clock, and even then only one over had been sent down when the heavy rain drove the players to the pavilion. This time there was an hour's delay. On the wet wicket Lord Hawke and Mr Pontifex hit freely for a time, but both were out for 44. Gunn and Chatterton played out time.

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

With eight wickets in hand Marylebone on Saturday morning wanted 212 for victory. Although several good batsmen remained, the chances were against the accomplishment of this task and, on a wicket which gave the bowlers aid, the club team made a less vigorous fight than was expected.

In dull weather Gunn and Chatterton, the not-outs with 19 and 12, resumed the batting; Wright and Martin shared the attack. Gunn cut Wright for three and hit him to leg with a like result, while two similar strokes by Chatterton brought four each. Gunn was bowled at 89 for a capital 32, and Flowers succeeded him. Runs came steadily, three byes increasing the figures to 100 after rather more than half an hour's play. An addition of ten and Flowers was out in an unlucky manner; he had gone over the crease to play Martin, the wicket-keeper fumbled the ball, but it went back off his pads into the wicket, and thus the batsman was stumped. Four for 110.

Mr Littlewood joined Chatterton, who had shown capital defence. The professional drove Wright to the boundary, while his companion scored six in two hits. Wright, who had been bowling very

well, dismissed Mr Littlewood at 121, making room for Mr Robertson. The Kent men fielded very well, and six overs produced only three singles; then Chatterton's wicket was disturbed by a capital ball from Wright which broke in and struck the leg stump. He had played a good innings. Six for 124.

Rawlin arrived. A couple by each batsman and a bye raised the score to 129, when Wright bowled Mr Robertson. Mr Maude, who followed him, gave the last-mentioned bowler a hard return chance, and was twice afterwards missed prior to being easily caught at third man for a single. Eight for 131. Mr Welman came next, but his stay was brief; he made a hit for two, and then Wright sent his last season out of the ground. Hulme joined Rawlin, whose best hit so far had been an on-drive for three. Each batsman made a single in the next over from Martin, but Hulme then succumbed to Wright and the innings closed for 139. The last-named had bowled with great effect; his nine wickets cost on average eight runs each. From the score appended it will be seen that Kent won by 135 runs.

6 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3446.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 June, page 6)

Seven of last year's Oxford eleven were included in the team which appeared at Oxford yesterday against the Marylebone Club. Barnes batted with great vigour, for, although six bowlers were tried, he ran up a score of 102, and at the end of the day was still not out.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 June, page 12)

The Oxford eleven have not met with much success in their trial matches, and yesterday they suffered their third consecutive defeat. On Thursday evening, at Oxford, the Marylebone team had secured a substantial advantage, as they possessed a lead of 105, with two wickets in hand. Barnes was mainly responsible for this position of affairs, as he was credited with 102.

Yesterday he and Shacklock resumed the defence, but only five runs were added before Barnes fell to a smart catch at wicket. His innings had extended over two hours and three-quarters, and the chief contributions were 12 fours, three threes and 14 twos.

Against a majority of 121 Oxford went in a second time. Messrs Gresson and Croome were opposed by Attewell and Shacklock. Messrs Gresson and Jardine were both out for 20. Mr Watson, however, proved an able partner for Mr Croome, and the vigorous batting of these gentlemen brought about several variations in the attack. Sixty runs were added before the dismissal of Mr Croome, who was succeeded by Lord George Scott. Another spirited stand ensued. The deficit was hit off, and when Lord George Scott left Oxford were ten runs ahead.

Mr Watson continued to play well until he was secured by Barnes. He was sixth to leave, having contributed in an hour and three-quarters 89. His chief hits were nine fours, six threes and eight twos. The last batsman fell at 219, which left Marylebone with 99 to score for victory.

Barnes again batted well, and Mr J S Russel was still more successful. In the latter's 51 were seven fours and five threes. Marylebone obtained the 99 in a little more than an hour and won by seven wickets.

6 June: SURREY v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3447.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 June, page 6)

A large company of spectators was present at Kennington Oval yesterday to witness this match. Surrey won the toss and sent in Mr J Shuter and Abel. Roberts and Mr Chard shared the attack.

The bad fortune hitherto experienced by the home captain this season did not forsake him, as from the fifth ball of the match he was caught in the slips by Mr Chard at the second attempt. Mr Key went in and, after a few risky hits, Abel drove Mr Chard to the off for four. Mr Key made seven by two drives from Roberts. At 28 a catch at slip dismissed Abel, and Mr W W Read joined Mr Key. The latter did most of the scoring, and a cut and square-leg hit for four each by him from Roberts caused the 50 to be signalled, after as many minutes' play. Three runs later Mr Radcliffe relieved Roberts, and Mr Key was missed at forward short-leg. Dr W G Grace went on for Mr Chard at 68, and in his first over bowled Mr Walter Read, whose place was filled by M Read.

Mr Key made six by a couple of drives off Mr Radcliffe, who at 80 gave up the ball to Roberts. Maurice Read made drives for four and three, but was dismissed by a fine one-handed catch at slip. Lohmann arrived, and the run-getting was checked, only a single being made in nine overs. A square-leg hit to the boundary relieved this slowness. Mr Chard having relieved Dr Grace, a single by Mr Key caused the 100 to be signalled, after an hour and 50 minutes' play. In the next over, however, Mr Key was caught at short-leg; he had played a capital innings of 49.

The luncheon interval over, Henderson proceeded to the wickets with Lohmann. The latter drove Mr Chard twice to the boundary, and made eight from Roberts by a leg-hit and off-drive. Meanwhile, Henderson cut Mr Chard for four. Dr W G Grace went on for the latter at 126. Lohmann cut him twice to the spectators, but at 140 he was bowled off his pads. Six down. Mr Brooks drove a ball of Dr Grace's straight for four; he was stumped, however, off the next ball. Seven for 144. Henderson hit with remarkable freedom until dismissed by a capital catch at third man, and Sharp was easily secured at mid-off. Beaumont soon put together his runs, a drive by him to the boundary causing the 200 to be reached at 10 minutes past 4. He was ultimately secured at cover-point.

When Gloucestershire began batting the attendance had increased considerably. Mr Radcliffe received the first over from Lohmann (pavilion end). The other bowler was Beaumont, whose fifth ball Dr W G Grace drove for four. Mr Radcliffe cut Lohmann to the boundary; at 16, however, he was caught at cover-slip. Mr Cranston joined Dr Grace. Each batsman drove Beaumont for four, and at 59 this bowler gave way to Sharpe. The Gloucestershire captain was then missed at mid-on by Bowley off Lohmann. A double change was now tried in the attack, Beaumont and Abel going on. Dr W G Grace cut the former for four and drove him to the on for three, the latter hit completing his 50.

Further changes were tried, Sharpe going on at the pavilion end and Bowley at the other. These did not prevent the 100 being reached after an hour and 20 minutes' play. Lohmann resumed at 120. Mr Cranston cut him for three, this bringing his score to 50. When he had made five more, however, his off stump was bowled. Two for 142. Mr Brain came in and Lohmann went on at the western wicket and Sharpe at the pavilion end. No separation, however, had been effected up to the drawing of stumps . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 June, page 12)

Yesterday the company at Kennington Oval was again very large and the game was watched with keen interest. At the drawing of stumps on Thursday evening Surrey were out for 210 and two of the visitors' wickets were down for 160.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Brain (not outs, 84 and nine) resumed batting at 25 minutes to 12. After Beaumont had sent down an over, the attack was shared by Lohmann and Sharpe. The latter soon bowled Mr Brain's off stump out of the ground, and Painter, who took his place, returned the ball. Four for 164. After half-a-dozen more runs had been made Dr W G Grace was caught at mid-on. In spite of the two chances given he had played an excellent innings. His score included 12 fours and seven threes. Half the wickets, 170 runs.

Messrs Griffiths and Chard were now together. When only a dozen runs had been added, however, the former's middle stump was bowled and the latter caught at mid-on. A bailer dismissed Mr Murdock at 189, while eight runs later Murch was easily secured at slip. Nine down. Mr Bush and Roberts were together when the 200 was recorded at ten minutes past 1. The former was bowled shortly afterwards. Total 206. Sharpe's bowling during the morning was very creditable; it analyzed thus – 21 overs (15 maidens), 14 runs, four wickets.

With a narrow majority of four runs Surrey went in a second time at 1.35. Mr Shuter and Abel were opposed by Mr Chard and [Roberts]. These bowlers were afterwards displaced by Dr Grace and Mr Radcliffe; the former caused the Surrey captain to be caught at wicket with the total at 22, to the disappointment of many who had hoped to see Mr Shuter break his spell of ill-fortune. Luncheon now intervened.

The interval over, Maurice Read proceeded to the wickets with Abel. Dr W G Grace and Roberts were the bowlers. The hitting of Read was free; he twice drove the Gloucestershire captain to the Pavilion rails and sent the other bowler to leg for four. Mr Chard relieved Dr Grace at 47. The run-getting now became slower, and Roberts bowled seven maiden overs in succession. Read then hit him to leg for four, and Murch was put on at 70. His fifth ball Abel placed into the hands of forward short-leg. Two for 72.

Mr Walter Read, after making a single, sent a ball of Murch's to the leg boundary and drove him to the off for four. At 84 Mr Radcliffe relieved Mr Chard. Subsequently Maurice Read made 17 in four hits – an on-drive for five, and two cuts and a square-leg hit for four each. A two-fold change in the attack was adopted, Roberts and Dr Grace going on. The rain, which had been falling slightly for some little time, caused a retreat to the Pavilion at half-past 4, and as it increased, stumps were drawn an hour and a quarter later.

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

The prospect of a full and interesting day's cricket caused a large company to assemble at the Oval on Saturday, the concluding stage of this match. Although there seemed rain in the air none fell. At the drawing of stumps on the previous evening Surrey, with four runs in hand, had lost two wickets in their second venture for 136.

In an uncertain light Maurice Read and Mr Key (not-outs 59 and 12) continued their innings at 11.40. Roberts and Dr W G Grace opened the attack. Each batsman cut the latter for three, and when he had made 21 Mr Key was missed from a straight drive. Read drove Roberts finely for four, and at 165 Murch was put on. This change speedily brought about the dismissal of Read, clean bowled; his contributions comprised a five, eight fours, six twos &c.

Lohmann joined Mr Key and free hitting was witnessed. At 182 Chard relieved his captain; Mr Key made two fours from him by an on-drive and cut. Lohmann twice sent Murch to the on-boundary, and the 200 was registered at 12.35. Nine runs later Roberts resumed. Lohmann hit him to square leg for four and drove Chard for the same number. This bowler handed the ball to Dr W G Grace. An on-drive for four was made by each batsman. At length Mr Key was secured at long slip, 65 having been put on since the fall of the fourth wicket; among his hits were five fours, two threes and five twos. Henderson drove the Gloucestershire captain for four and cut him for three, and Mr Radcliffe went on. His third ball Lohmann drove hard and was caught in front of the pavilion; his chief figures were six fours, two threes and five twos. Six for 26.

Sharpe appeared and Henderson drove Mr Radcliffe well to the on for four and cut Roberts for three. The latter was then displaced by Murch, and Sharpe drove both bowlers for four. At 278 Chard went on for Murch and his first ball Henderson sent to the square-leg boundary. The batsman subsequently hit Mr Radcliffe well to the on for another five. Dr W G Grace tried a couple of overs before luncheon, when the total stood at 293.

Afterwards the Gloucestershire captain and Roberts bowled. The 300 was signalled at 2.50. Henderson sent Roberts twice to leg for four and Sharpe drove him to the on-boundary. At last Dr W G Grace, after several endeavours, tempted Sharpe to hit the ball to square leg, where it was secured. Seven for 338. It was now half-past 3 and Surrey declared their innings over. Henderson, who had batted with great freedom, was the not-out; in his 63 were two fives, six fours, three threes, six twos &c.

It was 3.45 when Gloucestershire went in a second time, with 343 set them for victory. They had thus three hours and a quarter left prior to the time fixed for the drawing of stumps. The light had become very treacherous and gradually grew worse. Mr Radcliffe and Dr W G Grace went in first. The attack was intrusted to Lohmann and Beaumont. From the former's third ball Mr Radcliffe was finely caught by the Surrey captain, running backwards from cover-point. Mr Cranston came in; and Dr Grace opened his account by driving Beaumont to the off for four. He then sent the same bowler to leg with a similar result, while Mr Cranston twice cut him to the boundary. In this free style 34 runs were registered in 14 overs. Mr Cranston was then well caught at mid-off by Sharpe.

Mr Brain joined his captain, who hit round at a ball of Beaumont's, which Mr Key, standing at short leg, just managed to jump up and touch with his right hand. Two runs were the result of this hit, and in the same over he sent the ball to square leg for four and cut it for three. Fifty-one runs were produced in three-quarters of an hour, and then Dr Grace had the misfortune to play hard on to his wicket. Painter sent the ball tamely into the receptive hands of mid-off. Mr Griffiths drove Beaumont to the off for four, and at 70 Sharpe was put on. Two runs were added, when Mr Brain was caught at mid-off, and half the wickets were down.

The remaining five were captured for an addition of 20 runs. Mr Griffiths was bowled, Mr Chard fell to the wicket-keeper's dexterity, Murch had his middle stump bowled, the top of Mr Murdock's wicket was struck and Roberts was clean bowled. Total 92; time 5.30. Thus Surrey, who have for the past two years occupied the position of leading county, won the first match which affects that

position by the overwhelming majority of 250 runs.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128240.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 June, page 6)

Heavy scoring characterized the opening day's play in this county match at Leicester.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 June, page 12)

After Yorkshire's heavy score of 330 in this match at Leicester on Thursday, the home team's only chance, as the game was limited to two days, was to make a draw of it. Overnight they had scored 35 without loss of wicket.

Wheeler hit very freely and the 100 was passed with only two batsmen dismissed; he was the fourth to leave – clean bowled. Among his hits were a five, six fours, five threes and nine twos. The last wicket fell for 168.

In a minority of 162, Leicestershire followed on. Warren and Mr De Trafford made 54 between them, but the nine other batsmen only obtained 32, and thus Yorkshire won by an innings and 73 runs.

10 June: MIDDLESEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3448.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 June, page 4)

The heavy rain caused play in this match at Lord's to be postponed until to-day.

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

Rain had so affected the turf at Lord's that yesterday morning play was found to be impracticable, and the captains of these counties had reluctantly to abandon the match.

10 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3449.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 June, page 4)

Yesterday the weather was cheerless, but this did not prevent a large number of spectators visiting the Trent-bridge Ground at Nottingham to witness the match between these counties; 7,700 people paid at the turnstiles.

Nottinghamshire won the toss, and sent in Shrewsbury and Mr Dixon on a rather slow wicket. Lohmann and Sharpe led the attack. Both batsmen exercised great caution, and 20 runs resulted from the first half-hour's play. At 27, in order to conform with the new rule, Abel bowled for an over in lieu of Lohmann, who crossed to the other end, and Beaumont at once displaced Abel. This variation quickly succeeded, Shrewsbury's off stump being struck by a splendid ball. One for 41. With Gunn in the 50 was soon reached. Both batsmen showed capital form and, although Sharpe relieved Beaumont at 81, they were not separated at the interval, when the score had reached 97.

On resuming Lockwood and Lohmann shared the bowling. Mr Dixon soon completed his 50, and the three figures were signalled amidst hearty cheering. Eight runs later this batsman was bowled by Lohmann for a faultless 54, in which were four fours and seven threes. Two down. Barnes joined Gunn, and both offered a sturdy resistance to the attack. The latter gave a sharp chance to the wicket-keeper with his score at 34. A further change in the bowling was tried at 142, Mr Walter Read going on with lobs for a few overs. This was not successful, while at 188 Lohmann handed the ball to Lockwood. The latter proved effective as, with 11 added, Barnes was given out "leg before" to him. The third wicket had yielded 92, of which number the retiring batsman had contributed the larger portion by two fours, eight threes, eight twos and singles. Three for 199.

The fourth and fifth wickets quickly fell – Mr Daft was bowled first ball, while Flowers left at 205. Five down. Gunn, who next had Scotton for a partner, completed his 100 after a little over three hours' batting. At this point there was 20 minutes' delay on account of rain. Gunn did not long survive, as his splendid innings was closed through his obstructing the wicket. Altogether he had been in three hours and a half, and his principal hits were six fours, 12 threes and 19 twos. Scotton and Attewell remained in company until 6 o'clock, when rain stopped play for the day.

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

After a lapse of nearly three years, Nottinghamshire have gained a victory over Surrey, and this, too, in a most decisive manner. Monday's play on the Trent-bridge Ground at Nottingham left them in a very hopeful position, as they had accumulated 280 runs for the loss of only six wickets. Yesterday it was estimated that, including members, there were nearly 12,000 spectators.

The game was resumed at five minutes past 11 o'clock on a wicket rendered treacherous by the previous night's rain. Scotton and Attewell (not-outs, with 29 and four) were placed in opposition to Sharpe and Lohmann. The last-named batsman scored steadily, and the third hundred was completed at half-past 11. Eight runs later Attewell was bowled, and the three remaining batsmen collapsed without the addition of even a single. Total 308.

Against this formidable score Surrey began their batting at five minutes past 12 with Mr Shuter and

Abel. Attewell and Richardson had charge of the early bowling. Nine runs were recorded as the result of eight overs, and then Abel was completely beaten by a ball of Richardson's, which broke on to his leg stump. Mr Key joined his captain, who had an escape at the hands of Scotton at mid-off, which, however, he turned to little account. With the score at 22 he was clean bowled, and Mr Walter Read appeared. He opened his batting vigorously with three consecutive fours (two drives and a leg hit) in an over from Attewell. These he supplemented by driving Richardson for three and hitting him to square leg for four. At 52, however, a ball got up quickly and glanced off the shoulder of his bat into the hands of Shrewsbury at point. Three down.

Maurice Read joined Mr Key, who had exercised the utmost patience, not having scored for quite half an hour. With the total at 60 he obstructed his wicket. Further disasters were in store for Surrey, as Maurice Read was immediately afterwards caught between point and slip, and while Scotton smartly threw Henderson out from short leg. Six down. Lohmann and Lockwood stayed together for a little time, and at 81 the first bowling change was adopted, Shacklock going on for Attewell at the pavilion end. This had the desired effect, as only two were added when Lockwood played on. Wood was out "l.-b.-w." and Sharpe was bowled, thus making nine wickets down. Luncheon having intervened, Lohmann was speedily bowled, and the innings ended for 98.

Surrey, with the disheartening deficiency of 210, followed on at ten minutes past 3. Mr Shuter faced the attacks of Shacklock and Richardson. A catch at point dismissed the Surrey captain when only ten were reached, and at the same total Abel was clean bowled. Mr Walter Read made a capital hit to square leg for four; but at 17 his off stump was shot out of the ground by Shacklock. Three down. Mr Key and Maurice Read added 11, at which point both were clean bowled. Half the wickets were now captured for only 28 runs.

So far as scoring was concerned, the last portion of the innings almost formed a counterpart to the first. Lohmann's stay was brief – clean bowled at 31. Eight runs later Henderson left; but Lockwood and Wood put on 18 for the next wicket. Of this number ten were made by Wood with a leg hit for six and four. He was then caught at mid-on. Sharpe and Beaumont were dismissed by successive balls, and at 20 minutes to 5 Nottinghamshire had obtained an overwhelming victory by an innings and 153 runs, amidst the deafening cheers of the onlookers. The bowling of Shacklock and Richardson was almost irresistible, and they took full advantage of the difficult turf.

10 June: SUSSEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3450.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 June, page 4)

After losing both their matches in the metropolis, at the hands of Surrey and Middlesex, the western county eleven journeyed to Brighton, where yesterday they began their first game with Sussex. There were two alterations in the visitors' side, Messrs Champain and Evans superseding Messrs Murdock and Griffiths. Some capital cricket was seen, but it was played under conditions the reverse of pleasant. A cold, north-easterly wind prevailed throughout the day, and the game was also interrupted by rain from 4 until past 5 o'clock. Despite the cold and cheerless weather, some 3,000 persons were present.

Sussex were fortunate enough to win the toss, and they occupied the wickets the whole day, completing an innings at a quarter to 7 o'clock for 278. Towards this number Major contributed 106. His chief hits were nine fours, five threes and 16 twos, and his stay at the wickets extended just over four hours and a half.

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

At the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday, there was a large company to witness the continuation of this match. The weather was an improvement on that of the previous day, the whole of which was occupied by Sussex in completing an innings of 278.

Against this heavy total Gloucestershire began batting, at 20 minutes to 12, with Dr Grace and Mr Radcliffe, who were opposed by A Hide and Tate. The hitting of both was very good, Mr Radcliffe playing a steady game, while the Gloucestershire captain's cricket was characterized by some particularly fine cutting. J Hide and Bean were tried as bowlers without much effect, so Humphreys with lobs was tried at 75, after 80 minutes' play. With the figures on 78 Mr Radcliffe was bowled.

On Mr Cranston joining Dr Grace the scoring was more rapid. The latter drove Humphreys to the on boundary, and the new-comer hit the same bowler over the heads of the spectators. The 100 was reached at 20 minutes past 1. The total exceeded this number by three only when Dr Grace was caught at slip. His admirably played innings of 70 lasted an hour and 40 minutes; its chief items were eight fours and eleven twos. Mr Brain came in, and Mr Cranston hit Humphreys over the pavilion for six. The lob bowler was thereupon displaced by Bean, who immediately got rid of Mr Brain. From 112 Mr Cranston and Painter took the score to 139 by luncheon time.

Thirteen only had been added after resuming when Mr Cranston gave a catch at the wicket. Mr Champain was out at 156, and at 185 Painter, after a stay of an hour and five minutes, was very smartly caught at the wicket. Fourteen runs only were now required to save the follow on, and four wickets remained. With these Humphreys played sad havoc, obtaining them all. The efforts to meet the lobs were of the most feeble character, and the outstanding wickets fell for an addition of seven runs. Total, 192.

At 10 minutes to 4 Gloucestershire started their second innings most disastrously, as the first ball bowled Dr Grace. Messrs Cranston and Radcliffe hit up 39 runs in as many minutes off Bean and A Hide, and then Tate came on and bowled Mr Radcliffe at 46. Mr Brain joined Mr Cranston, and

from 5 o'clock until 7 the wickets were kept possession of by these batsmen. Mr Brain gave a very difficult chance to the bowler early in his innings, and Mr Cranston was missed by Tate at long-off when he had made 76. In one over from Humphreys Mr Cranston made four drives for four and one for two, and at one time 44 were scored in 25 minutes. In the two hours the total was raised from 46 to 171, and thus Gloucestershire are now 85 runs on with eight wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 13 June, page 6)

The proverbial uncertainty of cricket was well illustrated in the match between these counties at Brighton. Sussex were batting the whole of the opening day, and ran up the substantial score of 273. Against this Gloucestershire registered 192 and, following on, lost Dr Grace and Mr Radcliffe before the deficit had been made good. Thus there seemed every prospect of an easy victory for the home side, but Messrs Brain and Cranston quite altered the aspect of affairs, and Tuesday night's score gave promise of an interesting finish.

There was splendid weather yesterday for the concluding day's play at the Hove Ground, and the attendance was very good. Overnight Gloucestershire in their second innings had obtained 171 runs for the loss of two wickets, and were thus 85 runs on. Yesterday, at 20 minutes to 12, the not-outs, Messrs Cranston and Brain, who were respectively 94 and 43, resumed batting. They were first opposed by Bean and A Hide.

That the wicket remained as true as ever was soon proved by the ease with which runs were gained, though the Sussex fielding was not up to the average. Twenty-nine runs were scored in the first quarter of an hour, bringing the total to 200, but, with 12 added, Mr Cranston should have been caught at third man by Quaife off Tate, who had just relieved A Hide. At 224 two wickets fell. Mr Brain, who had been batting altogether two hours and a half for 73, was well caught in the long field, and Mr Champain bowled. The dismissal of the first-named severed a partnership which had produced no fewer than 178 runs. Mr Brain hit 10 fours, a three and two twos.

Painter and Mr Cranston while together increased the total to 257; the latter was then easily caught at extra mid-off. his innings of 130 lasted three hours and 50 minutes, and included 18 fours, two threes and nine twos. Mr Cranston, when he had made 55, gave a possible chance of "caught and bowled" to J Hide; with his score at 76 he was missed from a rather difficult chance by Tate at long-on, and when 114 he should easily have been caught by Quaife at third man. These were the only mistakes.

With the fall of the fifth wicket Humphreys came on to bowl, and there seemed some chance of his accomplishing a performance similar to the first innings, for at 271 he disposed of Painter, who had hit freely, and four runs later he got Mr Murdock caught at mid-off; but after this the Sussex hopes fell indeed. Messrs Evans and Chard, who were then together, put on 76 runs for the eighth wicket. The play, if not brilliant, was highly creditable to these young cricketers. Mr Chard was caught at point at 351, and when 368 runs had been obtained for nine wickets the innings was declared at an end.

This left Sussex 283 runs to get to win and, as less than three hours remained for play, Sussex had, of course, only to try for a draw. Success in this direction at one time seemed hopeless. Quaife was caught at short-leg before a run had been scored, and Major was out in the same way at 5. Though Mr Newham and J Hide, the latter hitting very well, took the score to 51, two other wickets fell for an addition of six runs, and the sixth went at 81.

Then Hollands joined Humphreys. Having made 12, the former gave a chance to Mr Chard at slip. His failure to take it probably lost Gloucestershire the match, as the batsman named withstood all attacks until five minutes before time, when Hollands was caught at third man, after a stay of an hour and 20 minutes. The game was then left drawn. For the part they played in attaining such a result Humphreys and Hollands deserve the warm thanks of their county. The former batted in a most exemplary manner for an hour and a half.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128506.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 June, page 4)

Mr F R Spofforth made his first appearance in a county match yesterday at Derby, when the home eleven met Yorkshire, the only side who gave an unqualified assent to his playing this year for Derbyshire. The weather was unseasonable.

Yorkshire, successful in the toss, went in. Mr Spofforth quite justified the high opinion in which his bowling is held, and his seven wickets cost only a little over six runs each. With the exception of Ulyett, Towler (a colt) and Wade, the side could not make headway against the attack, and the last wicket fell for 132.

Derbyshire offered a very feeble resistance to the bowling of Peel and Middlebrook, and they were all dismissed in an hour for 57. The visitors, in a majority of 75, went in a second time . . .

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

The meeting of these counties at Derby produced what may fairly be termed a bowler's match. An innings each had been got through on Monday, and Yorkshire, who were 75 to the good, had lost a wicket only for 82.

Hall and Lee (not-outs, 21 and 53) continued batting yesterday. The first over of Mr Spofforth's proved disastrous to both, while in his second Towler, who had batted well on the previous day, was caught at mid-on. Lee's 53 included a six, six fours, four threes and a two. The innings closed at 20 minutes past 12 o'clock; the nine outstanding wickets had all been taken for an addition of ten runs to the overnight total. The analysis of Mr Spofforth's bowling for the morning was: - Eight overs, ten runs, eight wickets.

Derbyshire wanted 168 to win on going in a second time. Mr Wright and Chatterton put together 21 for the first wicket; then both were dismissed. Seven batsmen were out for 65. Hall and Davidson added 46 before the former was bowled, after which the latter saw the rest of his side out for 113. No fewer than 19 wickets had been captured for 126 in a little over two hours. From the complete score attached it will be seen that Yorkshire won by 54 runs.

13 June: LANCASHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3451.html)

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

There were about 10,000 spectators at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday, when a fairly strong Kent eleven were opposed by a powerful team of the Lancashire club, who for the first time this season had the assistance of Mr A G Steel. The weather was fine.

Mr Hornby won the toss and shortly after 12 o'clock he and Barlow began the home innings on a good wicket. Walter Wright and Martin were the bowlers. At the outset the scoring was slow, owing in a great measure to the capital Kent fielding. Mr Hornby made 14 out of 16 and was then caught at mid-off, while in Wright's next over Barlow and Mr Eccles had to leave, clean bowled. Three for 16.

Mr A G Steel next had Sugg for a partner. These batsmen soon improved the state of affairs; after playing with care at first Sugg hit vigorously, while Mr Steel obtained his runs in his well-known style. The attack was varied at both ends, Wootton and A Hearne going on, but they soon gave way to the original men. It was not until 95, however that Mr Steel was at length bowled. Seventy-nine runs had resulted from the partnership, which had lasted one hour and a quarter. Without addition Sugg and Mr Crosfield were both sent back by Martin, making six wickets down for 95.

Briggs now joined Ward; the pair scored freely until after luncheon, when Wright bowled Briggs. Pilling assisted Ward to obtain 65 runs in 70 minutes for the eighth wicket, but Watson and Mold were quickly disposed of and the venture closed for 197. Ward carried out his bat for an excellent 57, in which were four fours, a three and six twos. The Kent batsmen were dismissed rapidly, and in an hour and 20 minutes eight of them were out for 64.

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

By their feeble batting on Thursday evening in this match at Manchester, Kent almost lost any chance they had of winning their game against Lancashire. Eight wickets down for 54 against a total of 197 pointed, indeed, to a most easy victory for the home county, a result that was reached yesterday afternoon.

A Hearne and Martin resumed the visitors' first innings shortly after noon to the bowling of Mold and Watson. Fifteen runs were steadily added, and then Martin drove the ball into the hands of mid-off. Pentecost gave little trouble and the innings closed for 84.

In a minority of 113 Kent followed on. Frank and A Hearne started well to the bowling of Watson and Mold. Their excellent defence soon caused a two-fold change in the attack, Briggs and Barlow taking it up. At luncheon the score was 50.

After the interval Watson and Mold were again the bowlers. Only two were added when F Hearne was dismissed. A Hearne was caught at wicket at 60, and eight runs later Mr Fox was bowled. Pilling secured Mr Tonge, while G G Hearne's playing on made five wickets down for 94. At 103 Mr Marchant was bowled, Kibble caught at slip and Wootton bowled; but Wright and Martin managed to avert the innings defeat, and Lancashire were left with 11 runs to get to win, a number

which cost them Barlow's wicket. Sugg, with a cut for four, won the match for Lancashire by nine wickets.

13 June: LORD HAWKE'S XI v M SHERWIN'S XI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3452.html)

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

The majority of the Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire Elevens are engaged in this match, which began yesterday at Scarborough. The visitors, who went in first, started badly to the bowling of Middlebrook and Peel, Mr Daft and Scotton being out for eleven runs. Barnes and Gunn improved matters and raised the figures to 40 prior to the latter's dismissal – caught at slip. Subsequently Mr Redgate and Attewell showed good form and the venture realized 138.

Ulyett, who, in the absence of Lord Hawke, captained the home side, and Hall opened the Yorkshire innings.

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

There was an excellent day's cricket at Scarborough yesterday, when the match between these elevens was resumed. At the drawing of stumps on the previous day the visitors had scored 138, and Lord Hawke's team had lost two wickets for 91.

This good start was not so well followed up by the rest of the side as might have been expected. Lee fell to point at 108 and Padgett returned the ball at 129. Peel and Wade were soon bowled, and after some capital hitting by Messrs Leadbeater and Simpson the innings closed for 177. Shacklock bowled remarkably well, taking seven wickets for an average of nine runs each.

Sherwin's eleven began their second venture with arrears of 39. Most of these were hit off before the first wicket (Scotton's) fell, while afterwards the fine batting of Mr Daft, Gunn and Barnes quite altered the character of the game.

Day 3 (report from Monday 17 June, page 7)

The fine batting of the Nottinghamshire players in the second innings of this match at Scarborough gave them a great advantage and, had time allowed, they would in all probability have won.

Fine weather favoured the last day's play. Overnight Sherwin's side had lost five wickets for 237. On Saturday the score was raised to 316. In the second innings of Lord Hawke's team there was capital batting by Hall. The game was ultimately drawn.

13 June: SURREY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

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

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

The first appearance of a University eleven on a London ground has always an especial international for cricketers, and yesterday there was a very large company at the Oval to witness the opening of this match. The weather was fine but the wicket grew difficult as the day wore on. Cambridge were without two of their prominent batsmen – Mr M Thomas and Mr E M Butler – both of whom played at Lord's last season.

Surrey won the toss, and a few minutes after noon Mr Shuter and Abel opened their batting on a wicket somewhat slow. Mr Woods and Mr Ford shared the attack. In the course of half an hour the figures reached 32, and then Mr Mordaunt relieved Mr Woods, an alteration that speedily proved effective, as the new bowler's third ball Mr Shuter skied to mid-off.

Maurice Read arrived, and a further change in the attack was tried at 45, Mr De Little displacing Mr Ford. The batsmen, however, played the bowling with ease. Read made a cut for four, which brought up 50 at five minutes to 1, while Abel twice played Mr De Little to square-leg for four. The last-named handed the ball to Mr Hale at 73, and three runs later Mr Ford went on in lieu of Mr Mordaunt. Runs, however, were added steadily, and although Mr Woods resumed, the score had been raised at the interval to 95.

After luncheon Messrs Woods and Ford took up the bowling. The 100 was reached at 3 o'clock. The partnership had yesterday 102 runs when Abel fell to a catch at third man. He had played very well, and his 50 included two fours, four threes and six twos. Two for 135. Read did not long survive Abel, as at 140 he returned the ball to Mr Woods. Among his contributions were four fours, four threes and eight twos.

With Mr Key in, Mr Walter Read twice placed Mr Mordaunt to the square-leg boundary, but at 152 that bowler got him caught at wicket. Four down. Thus the game had undergone a considerable change. Lohmann made a lucky four on the leg side and was then caught at wicket. Five batsmen were out for 157. Henderson, who followed in, quickly grew busy; he drove Mr Woods finely for four, and subsequently obtained a three on each side of the wicket. Mr Woods gave up the ball to Mr De Little at 179, and eight runs later the Cambridge captain tried once more in place of Mr Mordaunt. In his first over Mr Key was badly missed at point, and Henderson should have been caught at mid-off. Two fine hits by Mr Key (an off-drive for four and a cut for two) brought up the 200 at 4.20. Henderson next cut and drove Mr Ford for two and three, but at 207 he was smartly caught at extra mid-off, and Lockwood arrived.

Twenty runs were rapidly added before the new-comer had his wicket disturbed, and Sharpe joined Mr Key. A couple of fine on-drives to the boundary by the latter caused Mr Woods to give up the ball Mr Woodhead, in whose first over Sharpe was bowled, the eighth wicket falling at 242. When Beaumont came in Mr Key quickly completed his 50, to which he soon added another dozen, bringing on Mr Ford again at 258. Without alteration in the figures Mr Key was taken at third man. Among his hits were seven fours, three threes and eight twos. Adams was given out caught at slip, and at 5.20 the innings ended for 259.

Messrs Crawley and Foley were first placed on their defence for the University. Lohmann (pavilion

end) and Sharpe divided the bowling. Six runs were made from five overs, when Mr Crawley was beaten by a ball from Sharpe. Mr Foley was soon bowled, and Mr Gosling was dismissed in the same way. Two and three wickets for eight runs. Mr Mordaunt played over a ball of Sharpe's, which broke into his wicket, and Mr Ford joined Mr Hale, who made five by a couple of drives in an over of Lohmann's. Still the scoring was by no means brisk, more than an hour being occupied in reaching 40. A single later Lohmann well followed up a ball, which Mr Ford returned to him. Half the wickets were now down.

A splendid catch by Adams (the fourth wicket-keeper Surrey has played this season) disposed of Mr Hale, who had batted well for his 25. The University's misfortunes did not end here, as at 50 Mr Woods was finely caught at long-on by Maurice Read, and when only four runs had been added Mr Woodhead was clean bowled, this being the eighth down for 54. Stumps were drawn for the day . . .

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

At the completion of the first day's play Surrey had 259, and eight Cambridge wickets were down for 54. Yesterday the game was continued at 25 minutes to 12, when Mr Cotterill (not out 5) was accompanied to the wickets by M'Gregor.

Sharpe and Lohmann bowled so well that the batting for some overs was very careful. At 70 a catch at wicket dismissed Mr Cotterill, and Mr De Little, the last man, came in. The 100 was reached at half-past 12, but without the addition of another run Mr M'Gregor was caught at short leg.

Cambridge, with a heavy deficiency of 159, followed on at five minutes to 1 with Messrs Foley and Crawley. The attack was intrusted to Beaumont and Lockwood, who were unchanged throughout the innings. Two singles resulted from the first half-dozen overs, and then Mr Crawley twice cut Beaumont for three. The bowler, however, caused Mr Foley to be secured at cover-point, and Mr Crawley was caught off him low down by third man. Mr Gosling's solitary contribution was a cut for three, and then his off stump was bowled. Three for 18. Mr Ford joined Mr Cotterill, who was missed by Abel at slip. The former had his off stump bowled out of the ground, and at 27 an easy catch by extra mid-off dismissed Mr Mordaunt. Mr Cotterill was clean bowled 13 runs later.

Messrs Hale and Woods after luncheon infused some spirit into the batting for a few overs, but at 62 both were dismissed. Only a couple of runs were added and Mr Woodhead was bowled. Messrs De Little and M'Gregor put together ten runs, when the former's off stump was struck, and the venture closed at half-past 3 for 74. From the complete score attached it will be seen that Surrey won by an innings and 85 runs.

17 June: MIDDLESEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3454.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 June, page 11)

Many thousand spectators visited Lord's yesterday to witness the match between the metropolitan counties. The weather kept fine. Surrey won the toss, but as the wicket had not quite recovered from Saturday's rain they put their opponents in.

Messrs Webbe and Stoddart began batting. Lohmann, from the pavilion end, and Sharpe led the bowling. The start was not hopeful, as, when only a dozen runs had been made, the home captain was beaten by a good ball from Lohmann. With Messrs Stoddart and Scott together the home prospect soon brightened. The former hit vigorous and, although the bowling was twice changed, he was credited with 50 after 80 minutes' batting. At 72 Mr Scott played on, and 14 runs later Mr Stoddart returned the ball. His chief hits were five fours, seven threes and four twos. Mr Walker stayed until the 100 was passed, when he also played on.

Soon after the interval Mr Nepean should have been run out, but Wood let him escape. This he turned to account by scoring 14 in an over of Lohmann's, in which were three on-drives to the boundary. At 128 Mr Vernon was bowled off stump and half the wickets were down. Mr Nepean was the next to leave, caught at mid-off. He had batted freely for his 44. Six for 165. Mr Hadow had hit well for 30 when he was caught at mid-off, having been missed by Mr Key in the long field from the previous ball. With his dismissal at ten minutes to 4 the innings closed for a total of 177.

Surrey started their batting with Maurice Read and Abel to the attacks of Messrs Bacmeister and Nepean. The latter was bowled at 15, but on Henderson arriving Maurice Read hit with great freedom, and at 34 Burton relieved Mr Nepean, while at 56 Mr Bacmeister gave way to Mr Stoddart. The latter change soon brought about the downfall of Maurice Read, who had the misfortune to play on. He had been batting 50 minutes. Two for 60.

Mr W W Read and Henderson played carefully, until at 95 the latter misjudged a ball, which was skied into the hands of point. Mr Key made an off-drive for four, and a single by the same batsman caused the 100 to be signalled at 20 minutes to 6. With the addition of a run only Mr Walter Read was finely caught at mid-on by the Middlesex captain. Lohmann was quickly bowled, and five wickets were lost for 101.

Mr Key and Lockwood soon grew busy. The latter made 12 by three drives in an over of Mr Nepean's, who went on for Burton. This caused the professional at once to resume, and a smart catch at wicket by West dismissed Lockwood. The ill-fortune experienced by Mr Shuter this season did not forsake him, as after a cut for a couple he was easily secured at mid-on. Seven for 133. The three remaining wickets only added 11 runs. Wood was caught at slip, and Sharp and Beaumont were bowled by successive balls. Total, 144.

Middlesex, with 33 runs in hand, went in for ten minutes' batting . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 June, page 12)

There was again a very large company at Lord's yesterday to witness the conclusion of the match

between these counties. On Monday each side had finished an innings, and Middlesex, with 33 in hand, had scored 10 without loss of wicket.

Rawlin and Burton resumed batting. Lohmann and Lockwood were the bowlers. At 29 a catch at slip dismissed Rawlin, and five runs afterwards Burton played on. Mr Stoddart began well, but with the total at 48 he was clean bowled. Messrs Scott and Nepean offered a steady resistance to the attack, and Beaumont relieved Lockwood. Lohmann bowled Mr Scott at 82. Mr Webbe gave little trouble, and Mr Walker came to the assistance of Mr Nepean. Sharpe relieved Beaumont, and it was not until 124 was reached that Mr Walker was smartly caught at wicket off Lohmann. The bowler, who was in excellent form, dismissed Mr Hadow and caused Mr Vernon to be secured by Wood. Eight for 136. West joined Mr Nepean, and at luncheon the score had travelled to 150.

After the interval Mr Nepean made 7 by two drives in an over of Lohmann's. At 180 West was finely caught in the long field by Abel, and at the same total Mr Bacmeister played on. In Mr Nepean's freely-hit 64 were six fours, seven threes and four twos.

Surrey now required 214 for victory. Mr Shuter was easily bowled when only four had been scored, and Mr Key joined Abel. Burton and Mr Bacmeister were the bowlers. From the latter Mr Key made two drives for four in successive overs, while after a little quiet play he hit Burton to the leg boundary. The score having reached 37 in half an hour, Mr Stoddart went on instead of Mr Bacmeister, and Mr Nepean relieved Burton. Mr Key profited by the former change, scoring 10 in an over by a square-leg hit and two off-drives. This caused Rawlin to be put on at 55. Mr Key did most of the hitting, and completed his 50 in an hour. Other changes in the attack were adopted. A cut to the boundary by Mr Key caused the 100 to be signalled. Twenty-three runs subsequently, Abel was easily caught at cover-point, having been batting an hour and a half for his 42. Mr Walter Read soon obstructed his wicket, and was succeeded by Maurice Read.

The 150 was required at a quarter past 5, and quickly afterwards Mr Key completed his 100. Both batsmen continued to hit freely in spite of the bowling being frequently changed. At length, with the total at 190, Maurice Read was clean bowled and Henderson came in. Four byes sent the total beyond the 200 at ten minutes to 6. A hit to the on-boundary by Mr Key made the score up to a tie, and a single by the same batsman from the following ball won the match for Surrey by six wickets.

Mr Key had batted in his best style for 121, in which there were 13 fours, four threes and 19 twos. There was quite a demonstration in front of the pavilion after the match. The victory of Surrey was a capital achievement, and the greatest credit is due to Mr Key for his cool and determined batting and to Abel for his steady play.

17 June: YORKSHIRE v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128228.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 June, page 11)

Excellent all-round cricket was the result of yesterday's play in this county match at Sheffield. Warwickshire had first innings, but, with few exceptions, their resistance to the home attack was feeble. Their six early wickets produced 83 runs, and the last four averaged less than two runs each, the venture realizing only 90.

Yorkshire were in the rest of the day. After Wainwright was bowled at 32, Hall and Lee made a most determined stand, putting on 113 runs for the second wicket. Lee hit brilliantly, scoring eight fours, a three and six twos; while Hall played with more freedom than he usually displays.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 June, page 12)

This match was concluded at Sheffield yesterday. It will be seen from the score that Yorkshire won by an innings and 54 runs.

17 June: ESSEX v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128468.html)

There was a good attendance at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday, when these counties began their first match this season. Both teams were strong.

The visitors went in first at a quarter past 12, Mr Mosby, who opened the batting with Chatterton and rapidly scored 18, being caught at mid-off. Mr Walker and Chatterton made a long stand for the second wicket; the result of an hour's partnership was an addition of 60, and then Mr Walker was well taken in the long-field. Chatterton left at 116, caught from a skier at mid-off. Davidson and Mr Eadie added 71 for the fifth wicket. The former's 48 was the best innings on the side; his chief items were five fours, three threes and four twos. Hall subsequently hit vigorously, and at 20 minutes to 5 the venture closed for 216; the last five wickets averaged rather less than six runs each.

Messrs Lucas and Owen began the Essex innings shortly after 5 o'clock to the bowling of Hulme and Davidson. They made an excellent start, as, in spite of bowling changes, they were together precisely an hour, in which time 56 runs were recorded. Mr Owen was first to leave, caught at cover-point. Mr Gosling had his off stump bowled down at 70, and then Burns and Mr Lucas played out time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 June, page 12)

This match was continued at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday. Essex went on with their innings, in which two wickets had fallen overnight for 90 runs. Mr Lucas and Burns were quickly separated. The last wicket brought the total to 203, and thus there was only the narrow margin of 13 between the two innings. After luncheon the visitors went in a second time . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 20 June, page 10)

After three days' excellent cricket the match between these counties was brought to a close yesterday. Derbyshire had secured a great advantage on Tuesday evening, as with eight wickets to fall, in their second venture, they were then 230 runs ahead.

Chatterton and Davidson, the not-outs, with 71 and 68, went on with the innings at 25 minutes to 12. The score rose steadily, and although many changes were resorted to both batsmen completed their 100 before 1 o'clock. Runs now came at a more rapid rate, and at the interval the figures stood at 354. After luncheon the batsmen remained together another half-hour, and then Chatterton was taken by the wicket-keeper standing back. There had been added, since Sugg was third out at 82, 293 runs, the result of five and a half hours' batting.

Chatterton played very finely, and his faultless innings of 168 comprised two fives (one increased from three by an overthrow), 16 fours, nine threes, 15 twos and singles. Davidson, who was joined by Mr S H Evershed, was shortly afterwards caught at extra mid-off. He had been in while 320 runs were obtained, and during his stay of six and a quarter hours he gave no chance. In his 129 were seven fours, five threes and 19 twos. His batting was characterized by its steadiness.

Derbyshire now declared their innings at an end, and this left them three hours in which to get their

rivals out. At a quarter to 4 Messrs Owen and Gosling opened the second venture of the home side. Ultimately the game was left drawn.

20 June: LANCASHIRE v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3455.html)

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

Oxford began the first of their out matches yesterday, appearing at Manchester to play their return game with Lancashire.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 June, page 14)

The opening day's play in this match at Old Trafford, Manchester, promised well for an interesting contest, Oxford scoring 156 and seven Lancashire wickets falling for 138.

Ward, who was not out 43, again batted well yesterday morning and, although the bowling was varied, the figures reached 165 prior to his dismissal. He was ninth out, caught at slip. Among his hits were four fours, three threes and nine twos. The Lancashire innings soon afterwards closed for 172.

Oxford, who were 16 runs behind, went in a second time. Several of their batsmen showed good form, but none of them could withstand for long the attacks of the home side, the bowlers receiving considerable assistance from the fiery wicket. Lancashire required 114 to win, a task they accomplished for the loss of three batsmen. Barlow played well, and included in his 52 were five fours, three threes and six twos.

20 June: MIDDLESEX v YORKSHIRE

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

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

The match between these counties drew a larger company than usual to Lord's yesterday. Winning the toss, Yorkshire went in shortly after 12 o'clock, Ulyett and Hall facing the attacks of Burton and Mr Bacmeister.

Ulyett made two fine cuts and one drive for four each; but, having scored 20 out of 23, a brilliant left-handed catch at cover-point sent him back. Lee, who followed, soon grew busy. Thrice the bowling was changed, and when Mr Hadow went on at 75 he beat Lee in his first over. Two down. Peel was quickly caught at extra slip, while Wainwright, after staying until the 100 went up, was bowled by a yorker.

After luncheon Lord Hawke hit brilliantly. He made three drives for four each in the first over and, although the attack was varied, he ran up 44 in half an hour. He scored nine fours, a three and five singles, and was fifth out, well caught at long-on by Mr O'Brien. Moorhouse was missed in the slips by Burton, an error that proved somewhat expensive, as he subsequently stayed with Hall for more than an hour, during which time 58 runs were added. Mr Stoddart, fielding deep behind the bowler, threw out Moorhouse at 214, while Wade, having given an easy chance of stumping to West, remained until 247, when Mr Stoddart caught him in the same position. The last three wickets averaged four runs each, and at 5 o'clock the innings ended for 259. Hall carried his bat out for a well-played [85], the result of four hours' cricket. Among his hits were six fours, eight threes and nine twos.

Messrs Stoddart and Webbe started the Middlesex venture. They rapidly scored 30 against the bowling of Peel and Middlebrook, when the home captain was well caught at extra slip. Mr Stoddart, who was joined by Mr Scott, hit with great brilliancy and 50 went up after half an hour's play. Ulyett was put on at 65. From his first ball Lord Hawke missed Mr Scott in the long field, and from his second Mr Stoddart was caught in the slips. Messrs Nepean and Scott advanced the score steadily. By 6.35 the 100 was reached and they were still together at the call of "time."

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 June, page 14)

Yesterday, at Lord's, there was a very large company of spectators, and the excellent cricket aroused much enthusiasm. Middlesex, who had made 116 over night for the loss of two wickets, resumed batting.

Messrs Scott and Nepean were disposed of for an addition of 14, and four batsmen were out for 130. Mr O'Brien, who came in, narrowly escaped being caught at point by Ulyett, after which he hit with great brilliancy. Middlebrook and Peel both went on, but 50 runs were added in 35 minutes. The 200 was signalled, and Mr O'Brien then completed his 50. At 210 Mr Walker was stumped and Mr Hadow fell to a catch at extra mid-off.

When Messrs O'Brien and Vernon became partners the score rose faster than ever. In spite of many bowling changes, these gentlemen added 112 in little over an hour, a rate of scoring not often equalled. The 300 had appeared at 20 minutes to 2. Mr O'Brien was the first to leave; he was

given out "leg before wicket" at 322, when he had got within eight of the 100. His dashing innings, which had lasted a couple of hours, comprised 14 fours, six threes, five twos and eight singles. At 335 West was caught at third man, and at length Mr Vernon was, at 336 out in the same way. He had been in an hour and three-quarters. He had hit 13 fours, two threes and eight twos. The innings closed for 368, which gave Middlesex a lead of 109.

Yorkshire started their second innings badly, losing Ulyett and Lee for eight runs. Peel, who then joined Hall, at once began to hit vigorously. Fifty was reached after as many minutes' play, and although Messrs Hadow, Stoddart, Nepean and Webbe each went on to bowl, the batsmen, without giving a chance, raised the score to 100 at a quarter past 5, while a little later Peel, with a leg-hit to the boundary, rubbed off the deficiency. Hall ran in and drove Burton thrice in succession to the off-boundary. Subsequently Mr Webbe put on West at the Nursery wicket, a variation that, however, brought about no separation. Peel completed his 100 with the total at 150, after which the rate of run-getting slightly slackened. When he had made 135, Peel gave a hard return chance to Burton, and then the batsmen played out time.

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

There was a very large gathering of spectators at Lord's on Saturday, and the victory of Middlesex caused great enthusiasm. The state of the overnight score foreshadowed a capital day's cricket; the prospects of the visitors were the brighter, as in their second innings they were 113 runs ahead with eight wickets in hand. Peel (149) and Hall (59) were the not-outs, and the total was 222. The batsmen named had already made 214 since the second wicket fell.

The third stage of the game was entered upon at 11.35, when Burton and Mr Bacmeister resumed the Middlesex bowling. Fifteen runs were rapidly added, and then the long partnership ended, Peel being brilliantly caught by Mr Webbe at mid-off. His innings of 158 lasted a little over three hours. He hit 22 fours, seven threes and nine twos. Three for 237.

Wainwright joined Hall. The score was increased rapidly, and Messrs Stoddart and Webbe took up the bowling. From the former, Wainwright at 293 was well caught at mid-off, making room for Lord Hawke. The 300 was signalled at five minutes to 1 o'clock; 13 runs later Mr Webbe tempted Hall to hit an off ball, with the result that the batsman fell an easy prey to Mr Nepean, fielding at long-slip. Hall had been in four hours and three-quarters without giving a chance. Among his hits were one five, nine fours, seven threes and four twos. Five for 313.

Lord Hawke was out ten runs later, Mr Stoddart bowling his leg stump out of the ground; but Wade and Moorhouse stayed together a long time. After two unsuccessful changes in the bowling, Mr Nepean had another trial at 356, and from his first ball Wade was cleverly stumped, while Mr Stoddart, who resumed at 366, quickly bowled Moorhouse, and eight wickets were down. After lunch Whitehead and Middlebrook were dismissed for an addition of 22, and the innings ended at five minutes past 3 for 388.

Middlesex, who went in a second time at 3.25, wanted 280 to win. The first innings "order" was observed, Messrs Stoddart and Webbe opening the batting. The former made three and four by fine cuts; but the score stood at only 20 when Mr Webbe was out to a dextrous left-handed catch at point. The home team's prospects were anything but bright when, at 25, Mr Stoddart had the misfortune to play on. Both these wickets had fallen to Ulyett, who then eventually tired and gave way to Whitehead. Messrs Nepean and Scott, who were now associated, both played well, until, at

73, the latter was out “leg-before.” With Mr Walker in, another stand was made. Mr Nepean played wonderfully well, while after a time Mr Walker, who gave a difficult chance to Hall in the slips, also hit freely. By two crisp boundaries he brought the 100 up after an hour and three-quarters’ cricket, and there were numerous bowling changes prior to Mr Walker’s dismissal at 129 – caught at wicket. Four wickets were now down.

Mr O’Brien was next in, and he at once began to hit, making six by a cut and a drive in the first over sent him by Ulyett. Meantime, Mr Nepean continued to play in excellent form, and at 5.40 a cheer greeted the completion of his 50. Mr O’Brien again scored six from Ulyett, causing that bowler to give way to Middlebrook, and then, getting to the other end, he made three beautiful drives along the ground from Peel for four each, the first of which went as far as the Nursery. By 6 o’clock the figures stood at 180. With only two added, Mr Nepean was easily taken at third man for a capital 62, in which there were five fours, six threes and six twos. Mr Hadow’s stay was brief, as, having seen Mr O’Brien make a four from each end, he was taken at wicket. Six for 197.

Eighty-three were yet wanted, and only three-quarters of an hour remained for play when Messrs O’Brien and Vernon, who had made the long stand in the other innings, became partners. Mr Vernon at once scored three by a cut, bringing up 200, and by a similar stroke he gained four at the other end. Ulyett was tried in lieu of Peel at 208. Mr Vernon cut him for four and sent him to leg for a couple. In the next over he gave a difficult chance to Moorhouse at slip. After a three by each batsman, Mr Vernon obtained four by a drive from Middlebrook, while in Ulyett’s next over Mr O’Brien scored 11 (two fours and a three) by drives. Wainwright and Whitehead took up the bowling, but all to no purpose; runs came faster than ever, Mr O’Brien hitting the bowlers to the boundary in quick succession.

At 258 Mr Vernon played the ball on to his wicket without removing the bails. Mr O’Brien signaled his partner’s escape by driving a ball from Wainwright on to the roof of the pavilion, and sending the next over Hall’s head at long-on for three. In the same over Mr Vernon obtained a four to the off boundary, while Mr O’Brien next hit Whitehead to leg for four. Middlebrook was then put on. Mr O’Brien placed his first ball to the square-leg boundary, and then by a clever single towards point completed his 100. The score was now “647 all.” A single by Mr Vernon then won Middlesex the match by four wickets.

There was a demonstration in front of the pavilion at the end of the game, and cheer after cheer was given to Mr O’Brien. He made his 100 in an hour and twenty minutes and gave no chance. His chief items were 14 fours, six threes and five twos. His hitting all round the wicket was of great brilliancy, his precision and skill in timing the bowling being most remarkable. When at Oxford, Mr O’Brien played several remarkable innings, especially that against the Australians; but all of these were eclipsed by that of Saturday.

In the aggregate the runs were more numerous than in any other game of importance played in England. They amounted to 1,295; the previous largest aggregate was the 1,217 in 1876 at Prince’s, in the match between Middlesex and Oxford University.

20 June: SUSSEX v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3457.html)

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

The Light Blues paid their annual visit to Brighton yesterday, when they opposed the Sussex team on the County Ground at Hove. Cambridge lost the toss and were kept in the field the greater part of the day. Their bowlers were severely punished, Mr Woods suffering most in this respect. Sussex completed their innings for 316, and against this formidable total Cambridge started well.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 June, page 14)

There is no better batsman's ground than that at the Hove, Brighton, a fact which has been well illustrated in the contest between Sussex and the Light Blues. On Thursday the home side ran up a first innings score of 316, an Cambridge made 76 without the loss of a wicket.

Yesterday Mr Foley was quickly dismissed, but Mr Mordaunt stayed until 125. The latter's excellent 78 included one five (four by an overthrow), ten fours, a three and six twos. Messrs Crawley, Gosling and Cotterill were disposed of for an addition of 111, and five wickets were down for 236, when Messrs Ford and Butler became associated. By brilliant cricket the score increased at a very fast rate, and 134 were put on before Mr Butler left. Mr Hale's stay was brief. Then Mr Ford, who had scored 123 in less than two hours, was taken at point. He had given a difficult chance to Bean at cover-point with his score at 51, but otherwise his play was faultless. He hit 13 fours, four threes and 14 twos. The last Cambridge wicket fell for 430, a total which gave them an advantage of 114 runs.

When the county went in again Mr Newham batted well, but in spite of this, the visitors got much the better of the game.

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

It is not often that a side after making over 300 in the first innings is so easily beaten as was Sussex by Cambridge at the Hove Ground, Brighton, on Saturday. The University eventually won by 10 wickets.

20 June: SURREY v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128225.html)

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

There was some remarkable cricket at Kennington Oval yesterday in the match between these counties. Surrey took first innings and lost Mr W W Read before a run had been scored. Then Abel and Mr Key raised the figures to 54, at which total both batsmen were out, while at 67 Henderson left.

Lohmann assisted Maurice Read to take the record to 123, when the former and Mr Fielding were disposed of, but the next partnership produced 89. Maurice Read, who had hit with great freedom, then returned the ball; his chief items were one five, nine fours, six threes and 12 twos. In Lockwood's 81, made without a chance, were 14 fours, a three and eight twos. The ninth wicket fell at 282, but an unexpected stand was made for the last. By capital cricket Beaumont and Sharpe added 118 runs, and the innings realized precisely 400.

Derbyshire went in shortly before 6 o'clock, and fared badly against the bowling of Lohmann and Bowley.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 June, page 14)

Against the capital bowling of Lohmann and Bowley the Derbyshire batsmen offered only a feeble esc at the Oval yesterday. On Thursday evening they had lost five wickets at their first attempt for 62, and yesterday morning the remainder added only 25.

Following on in a minority of 313, the visitors fared very little better, but it was only through the patient batting of Davidson, who was in nearly an hour and a half for his 29. Before luncheon seven wickets fell for 81 runs, and afterwards the last three were captured for an addition of nine. Lohmann and Bowley bowled unchanged, the latter, who had not played since the Gloucestershire match, being in especially good form. From the score subjoined it will be seen that Surrey won by an innings and 223 runs.

24 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3458.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 June, page 8)

At Lord's yesterday the Light Blues entered upon the last of their trial matches. Mr Woods, the fast bowler, was given a rest, and the team to play against Oxford will doubtless be the same as yesterday with the exception that he takes Mr Cotterill's place.

Dr Grace captained a very good Marylebone side, which included Mr W J Ford, an old Cambridge man, who has earned a great reputation for extraordinary hitting powers. The spectators mustered in strong force, the pavilion and members' enclosure being full . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 26 June, page 10)

There was again a large gathering of spectators at Lord's yesterday. From the following score it will be seen that Cambridge, with six wickets to fall, require 128 runs for victory.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 27 June, page 11)

After an excellent match, the Light Blues defeated Marylebone at Lord's yesterday by two wickets.

24 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3459.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 June, page 8)

Lancashire paid their annual visit to Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, when they were opposed by a powerful Midland eleven. Barlow was absent from the Lancashire side, who took first innings.

Shacklock and Richardson were the bowlers. Mr Hornby, Sugg and F Ward were all out for 22. A Ward and Briggs, however, played well, the latter scoring very quickly. Attewell was tried for Shacklock, but at 54 Richardson got Ward caught at wicket. Paul and Briggs, the latter of whom was missed by Scotton at slip, were together some time, and it was 95 when Briggs fell to point. He had made five fours. Subsequently the batsmen were steadily dismissed, and the innings, which occupied two and a half hours, realized 120.

When the home team went in Shrewsbury was clean bowled – off stump – at six, and at 41 Mr Dixon left. Gunn, however, hit finely, and, with Barnes, took the figures to 107, when he was out for 54, in which were five fours, two threes and nine twos. Mr Daft was quickly bowled, but Barnes and Flowers put on runs rapidly . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 26 June, page 10)

The brilliant victory gained by Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge yesterday makes their fourth consecutive win this season. The Lancastrians offered a most feeble resistance in their second venture, and were beaten by an innings and 59 runs.

24 June: SURREY v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3460.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 June, page 8)

There seems some probability of Surrey's repeating their achievement of last year on the Oval, when against the Dark Blues they ran up a score of 650, of which number Mr W W Read contributed 338. Yesterday they won the toss and remained in all day, losing only five batsmen. Mr J Shuter again took his place in the Surrey eleven, from which Beaumont, however, was absent.

Shortly after noon Mr Shuter and Abel opened the batting to the bowling of Messrs Moss and Bassett. Runs came rapidly and, in spite of the varied attack, 77 were made in a little over an hour before Mr Shuter left, caught at mid-off. Mr Fielding joined Abel, and the pair in two hours and three-quarters added 183 runs. The former was then caught at point. Mr Jardine got Mr Fielding out from the last ball of his first over, and the first ball of his second Abel returned to him. Abel was in rather less than four hours, during which time he played with considerable freedom, although at times his hitting was uncertain and faulty. Three for 261. Mr Key quickly fell to a catch at wicket, and four were down for 261. Mr Jardine had dismissed three batsmen in two overs without a run being made from him.

Mr W W Read and Maurice Read made another determined stand, and many bowling changes were tried prior to Mr Read's retirement, caught at wicket. The score had been increased by 148. Mr Read's principal items were 11 fours, six threes and eight twos. Lohmann and M Read then became partners . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 26 June, page 10)

Yesterday's play at Kennington Oval proved of a thoroughly interesting character. [Which is far more than can be said for this useless report.]

Day 3 (report from Thursday 27 June, page 11)

The Oxford batsmen offered a very feeble resistance to the Surrey attack at the Oval yesterday morning. On Tuesday evening they followed on and lost four wickets for 44, half of which number had been obtained by Mr Gresson. Yesterday Surrey won by an innings and 367 runs.

24 June: YORKSHIRE v SUSSEX

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

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 June, page 8)

Before Yorkshire have fairly recovered from their severe defeat in London they have again to face a heavy score. Yesterday at Bradford they were opposed by Sussex, who kept them in the field nearly the whole day. Lord Hawke is absent from the home side, included in which is Padgett, who played at Scarborough a few days ago in the match between Sherwin's and Lord Hawke's teams.

Sussex, who had first innings, lost Quaipe at 21, but Mr Newham then joined Major, and the pair remained together for an hour and 40 minutes, during which time 116 were added. Major, having been in two hours for 20, then fell to a catch at slip. Mr Newham was third out – leg before wicket – at 164 for a brilliant 110, a number that had [been] made in a little over two hours. Beyond a very difficult chance to point (Ulyett) when he had made 12, his innings was faultless; it included 16 fours, seven threes and four twos.

Subsequently J Hide and Humphreys were the most successful batsmen. Yorkshire went in for half an hour towards the end of the day.

Day 2 (scorecard but no report from Wednesday 26 June, page 10)

Day 3 (report from Thursday 27 June, page 11)

Although Sussex yesterday had only 120 to obtain for victory and an innings in which to make them, they found the task against the powerful Yorkshire bowlers rather difficult. After nearly three hours' play, Sussex won by four wickets, and thus Yorkshire sustained their second reverse.

27 June: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3462.html)

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

The western county placed a very strong eleven in the field at Gloucester yesterday against Yorkshire. Dr W G Grace won the toss and, with his brother, opened the home batting on a capital wicket and in brilliant weather.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 29 June, page 15)

At Gloucester yesterday the match between these counties was again productive of excellent cricket, and Yorkshire were left with 326 to get for victory.

Day 3 (report from Monday 1 July, page 6)

Success has not attended the Yorkshire Eleven in any of their important engagements this season, and on Saturday, at Gloucester, they experienced their third consecutive defeat. Gloucestershire won by 93 runs.

27 June: LANCASHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3463.html)

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

This match was begun at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday. The weather was very fine and a good wicket had been prepared. Choice of innings fell to Lancashire, for whom Mr Hornby and F Ward made an admirable start. In a little over half an hour the score reached 50, but with a single added Mr Hornby, who had hit brilliantly, was taken at third man.

Mr A G Steel played very well for a few overs. After his dismissal – caught in the slips – F and A Ward offered a spirited resistance to the Surrey bowlers . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 29 June, page 15)

Surrey's defeat at Manchester yesterday materially lessens any chance possessed by them of maintaining their position at the head of the counties. Even though they lost to Nottinghamshire, the supporters of the Southerners, with the season comparatively young, were very hopeful of the future. So this second reverse comes indeed as a severe blow. The result was a very easy victory for Lancashire by an innings and 48 runs.

27 June: SUSSEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3464.html)

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

Nottinghamshire, who have already this season decisively beaten Sussex, visited Brighton yesterday to play the return match. Beautiful weather favoured the game and there was a numerous company . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 29 June, page 15)

The victorious career of the Nottinghamshire eleven remains unchecked. Yesterday at Brighton they finished their fifth county match of the season, and for the fifth time the result for them was an innings victory.

28 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3465.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 29 June, page 15)

The Dark Blues visited Lord's yesterday and began their customary two-day match with Marylebone. There were 12 players a side . . .

Day 2 (report from Monday 1 July, page 6)

There was capital batting at Lord's on Saturday, and when the match was left unfinished Oxford possessed a great advantage.

Saturday 29 June

The American amateur cricket team known as the Gentlemen of America, accompanied by R Carpenter, the well-known English professional, arrived at Queenstown yesterday evening by the Inman liner City of Chicago from New York. They come to play a series of international championship games with the gentlemen cricket teams of England, Scotland and Ireland.

Their opening match will take place on Tuesday next in Dublin against Trinity College, after which they will play the Gentlemen of Ireland, who will be very strongly represented. The visitors will then cross to Scotland and play against the Gentlemen of Scotland in Edinburgh. Then a series of matches will be played through England, the closing match taking place on August 5 and 6 against the Gentlemen of Sussex.

1 July: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3466.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 July, page 11)

Gloucestershire were without several of their best cricketers yesterday when they met Lancashire on the county ground at Bristol.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 July, page 13)

This season the Lancashire club has been particularly fortunate in securing the services of two such able batsmen as Ward and Paul, who made their appearance for the first time at Lord's in the colts match some time ago. Yesterday they scored between them over 100 runs against Gloucestershire at Bristol.

Lancashire possessed a considerable advantage when stumps were drawn on Monday, and yesterday they gained an easy victory by an innings and 95 runs. Briggs bowled remarkably well.

1 July: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3467.html)

Monday 1 July

To-day at Lord's the Universities begin their annual match. After the MCC v Oxford game was over on Saturday Mr Philipson definitely fixed the Dark Blues eleven as follows: - Lord George Scott, the Hon F J N Thesiger, Messrs F H Gresson, W Rashleigh, H W Forster, A K Watson, M R Jardine, A C M Croome, R H Moss, H Bassett and H Philipson (captain). There is some doubt whether Mr Thesiger will be able to play. Mr M J Daughlish will fill any vacancy that should occur.

The Cambridge team will be as follows: - Messrs F G J Ford (captain), C P Foley, H J Mordaunt, E R de Little, E M Butler, G M'Gregor, S M J Woods, H Hale, R C Gosling, F Thomas and E Crawley. Play will begin at 12 o'clock.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 July, page 11)

The match at St John's-wood between Oxford and Cambridge seems to gather fresh adherents every year. Yesterday appeared to possess all that brilliancy which is associated with the fashionable matches. The proportion of ladies present was as large as ever, and their varied costumes were seen to great advantage in the promenade after luncheon, and between the innings. In Knatchbull's corner there was an enclosure reserved for the Coaching Club, while at the Nursery End the Four-in-Hand Club had a space set apart for them. There were also the customary large number of members' carriages at both ends of the field of play and in front of the tennis-court.

During the afternoon between 17,000 and 18,000 persons were present. Among the visitors were Prince Albert Victor of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duke of Buccleuch . . . Sir Henry James, Q.C., M.P., the president of the club, had a private box on the Grand Stand.

As regards the elevens, Cambridge had a far better record in the trial matches than the Dark Blues, who had not only failed to win a game, but had lost every match, except the return with the MCC, in which they showed greatly improved form. Six of last year's eleven played for them – Lord George Scott, Messrs Forster, Philipson, Gresson, Croome and Rashleigh. The Hon F Thesiger was prevented from assisting by the death of his brother. Cambridge, who relied on nine old Blues and two new men, the latter Messrs De Little and C P Foley, were known to be a remarkably strong side on a good wicket. And such they proved themselves, securing a great advantage by the time stumps were drawn.

The Oxford batting was disappointing, Lord George Scott (who carried out his bat for 37) alone playing well. They opened by losing Mr Gresson from the first ball of the day, and afterwards the only batsmen to stay any time with Lord George Scott were Mr Philipson and Mr Bassett. The Dark Blues were all out shortly after luncheon for 105 – a total which their opponents passed in a little over the hour with only two wickets down.

There have been few better innings in University matches than the brilliant 127 made by Mr H J Mordaunt, whose fine forward play is characteristic of Eton batsmen. He was in for nearly three hours, and his innings was closed by a catch at the wicket. From the time he came in his hitting was clean and well-timed, while the fact that he made 18 fours is a proof in itself of the vigour of his

cricket.

On both sides the wicket-keeping was excellent, especially that of Mr Philipson, the Oxford captain. The Cambridge fielding was below the average, for although they held the catches the ball was neither picked up nor returned with that precision for which one looks in University contests. The Oxford fielding, while not faultless, was decidedly better than that of their opponents . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 July, page 13)

Cambridge won the University match at Lord's yesterday in a most easy manner. It is not often that a contest of this kind produces anything so uninteresting and feeble as was the Oxford batting on both days. The excellence of the Cambridge bowling, especially Mr Woods's, is no excuse for the Dark Blues, who possessed many batsmen of proved ability, and the only reason for the collapse seemed to be bad cricket.

After luncheon yesterday Mr Philipson's vigorous hitting aroused some enthusiasm, of which there had been scarcely any during the morning, and this, apart from the good Cambridge fielding and bowling, was the only interesting feature of the concluding day's play. In the double Oxford innings the wicket was hit ten times, while two of the batsmen failed twice to score – namely, Mr Jardine and Mr Daughlish. The latter was substituted for the Hon F J N Thesiger, who at the last minute could not play in consequence of the very dangerous illness of his brother.

The chief contributors to the success of the Light Blues were Messrs H J Mordaunt, E Crawley and S M J Woods; the last-named's bowling record in the match was – 11 wickets for 82 runs.

Although the weather was cloudy yesterday there were quite 10,000 people present.

The drawing of stumps on Monday evening left the score as follows: - Oxford, 105; Cambridge, 291 for eight wickets, Mr Gosling, not out, 21. Play was resumed at 11.35, Mr De Little accompanying Mr Gosling to the wicket. Messrs Bassett and Croome were the bowlers. After six maiden overs Mr De Little scored three by a cut, while four byes and a single raised the figures to 300 at five minutes to 12. Mr De Little now tamely returned the ball, and the figures were unaltered when Mr M'Gregor's dismissal closed the innings, Cambridge possessing a lead of 135 runs. Mr Bassett was by far the most successful bowlers.

Oxford, who went in a second time at 12.25, observed the same order as the first venture. Messrs Forster and Gresson opened the batting to the attacks of Messrs Woods and Ford. In his second over the former clean bowled Mr Gresson, the first wicket falling at 7. Mr Rashleigh, who came in, hit Mr Ford to square-leg for four, but at 17 he lost the company of Mr Forster, whom Mr Woods clean bowled.

Mr Watson arrived. He gained four by a fine cut from Mr Ford, who was also driven to the boundary by Mr Rashleigh – an equally good hit. Mr Mordaunt relieved his captain at 35, after which the play for some time proved quiet, the only item of note being a lucky four in the slips by Mr Rashleigh, who, however, was disposed of at 42. With Lord George Scott in 50 was completed at 1.35, and then Mr De Little went on to bowl at the pavilion end. In the course of a few overs three more wickets fell. Mr Watson returned the ball at 54, two runs later Mr Jardine, for the second time, left without scoring, while at 57 a catch by the wicket-keeper disposed of Mr Croome. Mr Philipson joined Lord George Scott, and at luncheon the figures were 60.

After an interval of an hour the game was resumed, Messrs Ford and Woods bowling. In the latter's first over Lord George Scott was caught at point, and Mr Daughlish, having seen his captain drive Mr Woods for four, fell to a catch at wicket. Eight for 65. Mr Bassett came in. Mr Philipson made in a couple of overs from Mr Woods five excellent drives, three of which realized four each, while the others were for three and two. These hits brought that gentleman loud applause, which was renewed when he drove Mr Ford to the off-boundary. Mr Woods then with successive balls got Mr Bassett easily caught at mid-on and bowled Mr Moss, the innings closing at 3.25 for 90.

Mr Philipson took out his bat for an excellent 26, which comprised five fours, a three, a two and a single. From the score below it will be seen that Cambridge won by an innings and 105 runs.

1 July: YORKSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3468.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 July, page 11)

The Surrey Eleven visited Sheffield yesterday and met Yorkshire on the Bramall-lane ground. At one time it seemed probable that the Southerners would make a very heavy score, but after Mr Shuter and the two Reads had been dismissed the innings rapidly closed.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 July, page 13)

The two innings of the Yorkshire eleven occupied the whole of yesterday at Sheffield. Lohmann and Beaumont bowled very well, and against their attacks the home batsmen, with few exceptions, played feebly. Yorkshire followed on in a minority of 116, and when their innings ended Surrey were left with 72 to obtain to win.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 4 July, page 12)

Yesterday, at Sheffield, Yorkshire suffered defeat for the fourth time, Surrey vanquishing them by nine wickets. On Tuesday evening Surrey were left with 72 runs to get for victory and an innings to play.

1 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128221.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 July, page 11)

There was an interesting day's cricket at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, when these counties began their match.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 July, page 13)

The powerful Nottinghamshire team gained another brilliant victory at the Trentbridge ground yesterday. On the first innings they secured a lead of 34 and, getting their opponents out a second time for 104, went in again, requiring 71 for victory. This number Gunn and Shrewsbury obtained in an hour. The former's 50 included six fours, two threes and six twos. The score subjoined will show that Nottinghamshire won by ten wickets.

4 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3469.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 5 July, page 7)

There was a very large assemblage at Kennington Oval yesterday, and the teams were remarkably good. Dr Grace won the toss, and with Mr Stoddart went in at ten minutes past 12. The innings ended at a quarter past 6 for 347.

The Players went in at 25 minutes to 7, Abel and Wright facing the bowling of Messrs Woods and Bishop. Abel was out at 18.

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

Yesterday there were quite 5,000 people present at the Oval. On Thursday evening the Gentlemen had finished an innings for 347, and the Players for the loss of Abel had made 25.

At 11.35 Peel and Wright resumed the batting, and the innings, in the course of which Barnes played superbly, was not closed until a quarter past 6, when it ended for 396, or a lead of 49 for the Players. The Gentlemen went in a second time . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 8 July, page 10)

When two such good elevens as the Surrey Club secured for this match take the field it is only natural to look for excellent cricket. Saturday afternoon saw the game brought to a close with batting so fine that few visitors could have wished for better. When play was resumed on Saturday morning the Gentlemen, who had gone in against a majority of 49, had made 14 without loss of wicket.

Messrs Stoddart and Dixon were opposed at 11.35 by Lohmann and Richardson. With only three added Mr Dixon fell to a smart catch at slip, while at 31 Mr Stoddart also played under a ball which was secured in the slips. Two down. Dr Grace and Mr W W Read now became partners. Runs came only slowly. Sixty went up an hour after the start; but seven runs later Mr Read drove a ball hard into the hands of mid-off, and three wickets were down for 67.

When Mr Newham joined his captain the play became much more lively. Dr Grace made one very fine drive to the football boundary from Richardson, who, at 76, gave way to Peel, while at 91 Ulyett was put on at the pavilion end. With his first ball, the last-named bowled Mr Newham's off stump out of the ground. Mr O'Brien came next. He speedily cut Ulyett for four, and in that bowler's next over he twice sent the ball to the on boundary, bringing up the 100 at 1.20. Mr O'Brien scored six more in two hits from Ulyett, and was then caught at slip. Mr Cranston arrived.

After luncheon the bowlers were Lohmann and Richardson. The former got Mr Cranston caught by point at 153 and, four runs later, a catch at the wicket disposed of Dr Grace. He hit five fours, five threes and seven twos. Mr Woods was speedily out in the same way as Dr Grace, and eight wickets were down for 168. Messrs Philipson and Nepean made a spirited stand. Both gentlemen hit freely, and during the half-hour they were together the score was increased by 55 runs. Peel then bowled

through Mr Philipson, while Mr Bishop, two runs later, was dextrously thrown out by Wright. Total, 225. Mr Nepean took out his bat for 39.

Shortly before the half-hour the Players went in to get 177 to win, there being two hours and a half left for cricket. Gunn and Quaife started the batting, while the attack was shared by Messrs Woods and Nepean. In 20 minutes the score reached 35, and although the batting was varied it was doubled in half an hour. At a quarter to 6 the 100 was announced, while hearty applause shortly afterwards greeted the completion of each batsman's 50. Gunn now drew rapidly away from Quaife, who, with the figures at 156, was clean bowled. His 59 quite equalled in excellence his not-out contribution to the first total, and included in it were six fours, four threes and six twos.

When Barnes came in, Gunn was 92. The latter failed to make the eight necessary to give him his 100, and his figures were 98 when, at 20 minutes to 7, the Players had gained a brilliant victory by nine wickets. Gunn hit 13 fours, six threes and seven twos. No fewer than 1,145 runs were registered in the three days, and it is noteworthy that the three Notts batsmen – Barnes, Gunn and Shrewsbury – contributed 321. A feature of the match was the brilliant wicket-keeping by Mr Philipson.

4 July: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v LEICESTERSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/129/129550.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 5 July, page 7)

Marylebone placed a strong eleven in the field at Lord's yesterday against Leicestershire.

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

There was a thoroughly interesting day's cricket at Lord's yesterday. The brilliant hitting of Flowers and F Hearne for the club was followed later in the afternoon by some vigorous batting for the county.

Day 3 (report from Monday 8 July, page 10)

After a thoroughly interesting game the Marylebone Club secured the victory at Lord's on Saturday by 17 runs.

8 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3470.html)

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

By far the most important match of the season, from a purely cricket point of view, opened yesterday at Lord's. The Marylebone Club had chosen two fine elevens, and except that Shrewsbury was absent through an injured wrist these could not have been very well strengthened. Nottinghamshire had six representatives in the Players' eleven and also one in the Gentlemen's, while the Derbyshire captain, Chatterton, had a place among the Players.

The Players won the toss and went in on a capital wicket. Gunn and Abel were loudly applauded as they made their way to face Messrs Ford and Woods, the bowlers. The fielding was good, while with the bowling the batsmen could do little. Gunn made a dangerous hit in the slips at each end, after which the figures reached six in a quarter of an hour, while 25 minutes had elapsed when the score stood at 13. Mr Woods then bowled Gunn's off stump out of the ground. With Barnes and Abel together the cricket became much more lively; but at 27 the game was stopped by the rain and could not be resumed till 3 o'clock.

Abel obtained three fours in an over from Mr Ford, and in less than a quarter of an hour 26 were added. Subsequently Messrs Nepean and Steel took up the attack, variations that speedily slackened the run-getting. Abel managed to obtain his 50 at 20 minutes to 4, completing it by a drive for three; but the next ball from Mr Steel quite beat him, and he retired for a well-played 51, in which were four fours, four threes and seven twos. Two for 88.

Chatterton joined Barnes, and the 100 was signalled at five minutes to 4, the last 73 having been scored in an hour. Mr Woods soon resumed, but Barnes obtained ten in one over from him. A good ball from Mr Stoddart struck Chatterton's off stump at 115, and Peel was caught at slip in the same over. Four for 119. Barnes, who was now aided by Briggs, soon completed his 50. Briggs made several fine hits. His stay, however, was brief, for at 139 Mr Lucas cleverly caught him in the long-field from a hard drive. Flowers and Barnes scored rapidly, and in an hour added 52. Both, however, had narrow escapes, Barnes being badly missed by Mr Steel in the slips, while Mr Key let off Flowers. The last-named was run out at 191, Mr Philipson putting the wicket down from a good return by Mr Lucas.

Lohmann and Barnes were now partners. Although the bowling was several times altered, Messrs Dixon, Woods, Nepean and Ford being tried, runs were scored at a fast rate. When Mr Steel again took the ball at 224 Barnes drove him twice for four, bringing his score to 100 after he had been in three hours. Lohmann obtained four by a hard drive, and the score was 238 when rain put a stop to play for half an hour.

Dr Grace and Mr Dixon were afterwards the bowlers. Each having sent down a maiden, Barnes obtained six by two cuts. These he followed up by driving Mr Dixon to the on-boundary; but after a confident appeal by the wicket-keeper for a catch against him he was missed by Mr Ford at slip, a difficult chance. At length, at 252, Lohmann, who had assisted to add 61, was well caught at wicket, while an addition of seven saw Attewell dismissed in the same way from Mr Woods, who had relieved Mr Dixon. Shacklock and Barnes then remained together until time was called.

Throughout the day the light was bad, especially in the last hour. Barnes's fine hitting aroused

much enthusiasm among the 5,000 spectators.

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

Sufficient rain fell on Monday evening to give the bowlers an advantage on yesterday's wicket at Lord's, and Lohmann and Briggs made the most of their opportunities. About 10,000 people witnessed the play.

Barnes (not out 126) and Shacklock resumed the batting at 11.35 against the attacks of Messrs Nepean and Woods. The innings closed for 280. Barnes, who went in first wicket down at 13, carried out his bat for an excellent 130.

Shortly after noon Dr Grace and Mr Lucas began the Gentlemen's batting. They were faced by Briggs and Lohmann. The former clean bowled Mr Lucas – off stump – at 7, and Mr Stoddart arrived. For a time there seemed some prospect of a stand. In the course of a few overs Dr Grace cut Lohmann twice to the boundary and also hit him to square leg for four. Several less noteworthy items raised the figures to 34, when Mr Stoddart returned the ball, and a clever catch at slip sent back Dr Grace. Messrs Steel and Key raised the figures to 59, when the latter obstructed his wicket. At luncheon time seven wickets were down for 97.

On resuming, Mr Ford, by a three to leg, sent up the 100, after which Lohmann bowled him, and Mr Woods arrived. The new batsman hit hard, but at 120 he lost Mr Nepean, who ran himself out. Messrs Philipson and Wood rapidly hit up 28 for the last wicket, and then the stumping of Mr Philipson closed the innings for 148.

Following on in a minority of 132, the Gentlemen started badly. Dr Grace was caught at the wicket in the second over, and Mr Stoddart, after making a fine drive for four, was taken at mid-off. Six wickets were lost for 52, so that there yet remained 80 to get to avoid the innings defeat. Messrs Dixon and Steel were partners. Both played with care. At 9? the Players varied the bowling for the first time in the day, Shacklock displacing Lohmann. Mr Steel promptly cut him for three, bringing up the 100 amidst loud applause. Five runs later, however, Mr Dixon was bowled for a very steady 14. Subsequently Messrs Philipson and Steel succeeded in averting the innings defeat.

Gunn and Abel then went in and obtained the few runs necessary to give the Players the victory by ten wickets.

8 July: KENT v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3471.html)

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

Both counties were well represented in this match at Gravesend yesterday. The visitors, who took first innings, started badly, but soon afterwards matters improved. Quaipe and Mr Newham obtained 47 for the second wicket, while the latter was not dismissed until 98. Bean also played well, but the last five wickets were captured very quickly. Wright bowled with great success. When Kent went in G G Hearne played remarkably well.

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

A very fine performance was accomplished at Gravesend yesterday by Mr F Marchant, whose batting in turn for Eton, Cambridge and Kent has been very brilliant. Against Sussex this gentleman yesterday ran up a score of 176 without a chance in a little over three hours. He hit 20 fours, 17 threes and six twos. He went in third wicket down on Monday evening at 48, and was sixth to leave at 329, caught at mid-on. He and George Hearne for the fourth wicket added 249 runs.

Mr L Wilson also played well, and the Kent total reached 410. Owing to an injury received while batting, Wright did not complete his innings; but Pentecost, who was hurt on the first day, held his bat with one hand. Sussex went in against a majority of 267 . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 11 July, page 10)

When stumps were drawn on Tuesday evening in this match at Gravesend there was little probability of Sussex averting defeat, as, having followed on, they had lost five wickets and were still 130 runs behind.

It was a quarter past 2 before the game could be resumed yesterday owing to the heavy rain. Humphreys and Bean continued the batting, but the latter was bowled without scoring, while Humphreys soon fell a victim to the wicket-keeper. Mr Gresson showed good form, but the rest could do little with the bowling of Martin, and Kent eventually won by an innings and 95 runs.

8 July: WARWICKSHIRE v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128463.html)

Days 1 and 2: no report found

Day 3 (report from Thursday 11 July, page 10)

Some remarkable scoring resulted from the meeting of these elevens at Birmingham. The game began on Monday and was yesterday left drawn owing to the rain. The great feature of the match was the innings of 195 by Dr R Bencraft for Hampshire. He hit 24 fours, nine threes and 20 twos.

11 July: NORTH v SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3472.html)

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

Two powerful elevens, captained by Dr W G Grace and Mr A N Hornby, were secured for the North v South match, which opened yesterday at Old Trafford, Manchester. Pilling, to whose benefit fund the proceeds of the game are devoted, has figured for many years in the Lancashire eleven, and as a wicket-keeper has gained world-wide reputation, while in batting, too, his performances for the county have been both frequent and invaluable.

Splendid weather favoured the opening day's cricket and the company numbered more than 12,000. The South had the advantage of batting first on an excellent wicket, but against the bowling of Briggs and Attewell they started badly. Dr Grace drove the ball hard back to Attewell in the latter's third over, and Abel and Mr Nepean became associated. The batsmen at first could make little headway against the bowling, and in half an hour only ten runs were recorded. After this the score rose faster, and at 30 Briggs gave way to Peel.

With 13 added Abel was run out, Mr O'Brien arrived. He speedily made ten runs, all from an over of Peel, but with his figures at 16, he was missed by Briggs at cover point, while at 27 he had an escape at the hands of Gunn in the long field. With the score at 88 Mr Nepean, who had shown capital form, was taken at the wicket, and then Messrs Key and O'Brien became partners. Both gentlemen made several fine hits, until at 110 a catch at slip sent back Mr O'Brien. The latter's chief items were five fours, a three and five twos. Four for 110.

Mr Key did not long have the assistance of Quaife, who was caught at wicket at 118. Briggs had just previously resumed bowling in lieu of Peel. Lockwood was secured by Sherwin before he had scored, making six wickets down for 122. Lohmann and Mr Key then raised the figures to 158, the latter being seventh to leave – caught at slip. He had played a splendid innings of 58, in which there were ten fours, two threes and three twos. Lohmann and Mr Fielding both batted well, and when the last wicket fell the score was 204. Attewell bowled very effectively, his six wickets averaging rather less than 11 runs each.

Lohmann and Beaumont captured three of the North's chief batsmen for nine runs. Gunn and Sugg, however, slightly improved matters.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 13 July, page 12)

The Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, was visited by fully 10,000 people yesterday, the second day of the North v South match. Against the innings of 204 by their rivals, the North on Thursday evening, after losing three good batsmen for nine runs, improved their prospects with Gunn and Sugg together.

These professionals showed excellent form again yesterday morning, Sugg's dashing style forming a complete contrast to the more correct play of Gunn. Beaumont and Lohmann, who were the original bowlers, soon gave way to Martin and Mr Nepean, yet in 45 minutes the "100" appeared. The attack had been repeatedly varied before, at 134, a catch at wicket sent back Gunn. In an hour and a half the partnership had produced 125 runs.

Peel and Sugg remained together until 160, when both left. Sugg, who was in two hours, fell to a catch at long-off. His chief hits were a five (four by an overthrow), 13 fours, two threes and four twos. Six for 160. Briggs and Mr Steel made a determined stand, causing several bowling changes. The 200 was reached shortly after luncheon, and the figures stood at 226 prior to Mr Steel's returning the ball. Mr Hornby and Attewell both hit freely for a few overs, while in Briggs's 42 were six fours. The last wicket fell for 271, a total which gave the North a lead of 67.

Dr Grace and Abel hit off the deficit and ran up the score to 81 before a brilliant catch at mid-off sent back the Gloucestershire captain. This promising start was not followed up, for in a bad light Ulyett dismissed Mr Key, Mr Nepean and Quaife in quick succession, all three failing to make even a single.

Day 3 (report from Monday 15 July, page 7)

Although the weather was very unfavourable, between 5,000 and 6,000 people visited the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, to see the conclusion of the North v South match. When stumps were drawn on Friday evening the North possessed a decided advantage, for their opponents had lost four wickets in the second innings and were only 17 runs ahead.

In consequence of the rain play could not be resumed until 3 o'clock, when Abel (not out 34) and Mr O'Brien resumed the batting on a new wicket, the other having been quite spoilt. Briggs and Ulyett were the bowlers. After a little time the score rose rapidly, and at 107 Attewell displaced Ulyett. This alteration proved effective, as Mr O'Brien played on without alteration in the figures. Lockwood quickly left, and at 128 Abel was easily caught. The last-named had shown excellent form and in his 55 there were five fours and eight twos; his innings lasted two and a half hours. The other wickets added only five runs, and the innings closed for 133.

The North went in to get 67 in an hour, but this task they failed to accomplish. They lost three wickets for ten runs, while at 24 Sugg was dismissed, and eventually the game remained unfinished.

12 July: LEICESTERSHIRE v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/129/129426.html)

Day 1 (no report found)

Day 2 (report from Monday 15 July, page 7)

Two days were devoted to this match at the Aylestone-road Ground, Leicester, for the benefit of the veteran professional, [A] Rylott. The game was ultimately left unfinished on Saturday.

15 July: KENT v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3473.html)

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

There was a large muster of spectators at Mote-park, Maidstone, yesterday, when, in showery weather, the Kent v Yorkshire match began. Kent placed a very strong eleven in the field; a trial was given to Bombardier Barton, whose performances at Lord's this season for the Royal Artillery against Marylebone quite justified his selection. Nuttall keeps wicket in lieu of Pentecost, who has injured his hand.

Lord Hawke won the toss, and as there was some probability of an improvement in the wicket he decided to put Kent in, a policy always attended by considerable risk. Even yesterday it cannot be said to have proved altogether successful. With Middlebrook and Peel bowling the start was satisfactory enough, as they disposed of Mr Rashleigh and Frank Hearne for 12 runs.

But the small total that this opening foreshadowed was not the result of this day's cricket. Free hitting by Mr Fox was succeeded by the more brilliant display of Mr Marchant, who assisted Hearne to add 40 runs, of which he contributed in 25 minutes no fewer than 38 by five fours, two threes, five twos and two singles. Subsequently, Barton played very well . . .

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

At Mote-park, Maidstone, yesterday, the home eleven secured a great advantage in the match with Yorkshire.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 July, page 7)

Yorkshire lost their fifth match this season yesterday at Maidstone, when Kent beat them by an innings and 106 runs.

15 July: LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3474.html)

No reports found.

15 July: MIDDLESEX v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3475.html)

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

Lord's was visited by several thousand people yesterday to see the opening of the return match between Middlesex and Lancashire. The only two games the latter county has lost this season are those with Nottinghamshire and Middlesex, a fact that lent addition interest to the present meeting.

Showers during the day kept the wicket easy, and Lancashire, who won the toss, made the most of their opportunities. Mr Webbe was absent from the home team through an injury to his right arm. Mr Hornby was taken at wicket at 22, after which Mr Eccles and Sugg completed the 100 at half-past 1 o'clock, and the partnership had yielded 91 when Sugg was beaten by a ball from Mr Mordaunt, which struck the middle stump. He was in an hour and ten minutes, and his 63 consisted of ten fours, three threes, four twos and singles.

A Ward and Mr Eccles made another long stand, and it was a quarter past 4 when Mr Eccles succumbed to the wicket-keeper. He was in two hours and three-quarters for 78, included in which were eight fours, two threes and nine twos. After the 200 had gone up at 4.20 F Ward was clean bowled, but Briggs in 35 minutes scored 55 runs by seven fours, three threes, four twos and ten singles, while during his stay the score was advanced from 216 to 280. He might have been caught in the long field by Mr O'Brien with his figures at 17, and immediately before he was bowled Mr Vernon received a difficult chance. Five for 280.

Paul was caught at point, and Baker and Watson were both easily stumped. When Mold left A Ward wanted eight to complete his hundred, and eventually took out his bat for 114, the result of three and a half hours' play. His early cricket was most patient and uninteresting, but after being badly missed by Mr Scott in the long field at 37 he hit with considerable vigour; his chief contributions were nine fours, six threes and nine twos. The Middlesex fielding was below the average; Mr Bryant, however, kept wicket very successfully.

Middlesex went in for five minutes' batting, and lost Mr Ford.

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

This match was continued at Lord's yesterday in presence of a large company. It will be seen from the following score that in spite of the admirable batting of Mr Scott, who was well assisted by Mr Nepean and Mr O'Brien, the home team were defeated by an innings and 67 runs.

15 July: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3476.html)

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

The rain made the Brighton wicket, usually so true, quite treacherous yesterday, in spite of which Sussex fared better than one could have expected under the circumstances. Wood and Maurice Read took their places on the visitors' side, while Mr G Brann assisted Sussex.

Shortly before half-past 12 the home team went in, Mr Gresson and Major facing the bowling of Lohmann and Sharpe. Mr Gresson left at seven, and after some time Mr Newham and Major were both out, three wickets being down for 49. Quaife and Humphreys were out for an addition of 31. With J Hide and Mr Brann together the score rose rapidly. They put on no fewer than 85 runs for the sixth wicket, and then Hide saw the rest of the side out, remaining unconquered with 75 to his credit. He was in two and a quarter hours and his hits included six fours, a three and 13 twos. Lohmann's bowling was remarkable; he hit the wicket six times and altogether secured nine batsmen for an average of rather more than seven runs each.

Afterwards several heavy showers greatly interfered with the game. Surrey lost two good batsmen and were fortunate in having Abel not out, for he was badly missed at point by Humphreys.

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

This match was continued at Brighton yesterday. At the end of the day Surrey were left with 81 to obtain for victory. Lohmann in the double innings claimed no fewer than 15 wickets for 98 runs.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 July, page 7)

The remarkable ending of the Sussex innings on Tuesday night, when the last five wickets fell in ten minutes at the same total – viz., 81 – left Surrey only 81 to get for victory. This number, apparently an easy task for a side of Surrey's standing, proved quite difficult enough for the visitors yesterday on the treacherous Brighton wicket, and had Tate caught Lockwood in the deep-field the finish to the game might have been much more exciting. Eventually Surrey won a good match by three wickets.

15 July: GENTLEMEN OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE v GENTLEMEN OF PHILADELPHIA

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/105/105698.html)

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

Dr W G Grace captained a powerful side of the gentlemen of his county at Bristol yesterday, when they had much the better of the play with the Americans. After being in nearly all day the home eleven got rid of four of their rivals for eight runs.

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

Yesterday, at Bristol, the Philadelphians found the Gloucestershire bowling very effective, and they had to follow on in a minority of 138. Several of the batsmen showed good form . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 July, page 7)

At Bristol yesterday the Philadelphian Gentlemen experienced the first reverse of their tour, when Gloucestershire beat them by eight wickets.

18 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3477.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 July, page 10)

The weather at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, was fine, and a numerous company watched the play. Nottinghamshire won the toss, and going in first made 302. Kent then went in for a few minutes.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 July, page 10)

The victorious career of the Nottinghamshire Eleven continues. Not only have they won all their engagements, but in each instance their county matches have been single innings victories over Sussex (twice), Surrey, Lancashire, Middlesex and Kent, and besides these they have beaten Marylebone and Derbyshire. There was a large attendance at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, when the Kent match was brought to a close. Nottinghamshire won by an innings and 43 runs.

18 July: YORKSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3478.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 July, page 10)

There seems some prospect of Yorkshire checking the lengthened series of misfortunes with which they have this season been pursued. Yesterday they entered the list with the powerful Lancashire side at Fartown, Huddersfield.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 July, page 10)

That a match is never lost until won was aptly illustrated in the game between these counties, which ended yesterday at Huddersfield after an exciting finish. On Thursday evening there seemed every prospect of Yorkshire stemming the tide of ill-fortune which has hitherto this season set against them.

In a minority of 79, Lancashire had gone in a second time and lost four good batsmen for 22. Yesterday, however, they played an uphill game with so much spirit that in the end they just managed to win.

18 July: GENTLEMEN OF SURREY v GENTLEMEN OF PHILADELPHIA

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/105/105699.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 July, page 10)

The Philadelphians made their first appearance on a London ground yesterday, when at the Oval they opposed a strong Eleven of the Gentlemen of Surrey. The Surrey innings occupied the greater part of the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 July, page 10)

Heavy scoring characterized yesterday's play in this match at Kennington-oval . . .

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

The first match of the Philadelphians in London was brought to a close at Kennington Oval on Saturday. Mr Read accomplished the great feat of obtaining over 100 in each innings. The Surrey second innings was not over until half-past 5, and in the hour left for play the Philadelphians lost three wickets for 43 runs. With seven batsmen to come in they wanted 148 to avert defeat.

22 July: YORKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3479.html)

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

Bowlers have usually had matters so much their own way in Yorkshire v Nottinghamshire matches that these particular games have become notorious for their small scoring. Yesterday, however, was an exception to the rule; indeed, at one time a very heavy total seemed probable, but the last few Notts wickets fell so quickly that the figures were not extraordinary.

The two elevens entered the Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, with records this season most contrasting: each had played six matches, but while Nottinghamshire had secured every one of theirs, Yorkshire had lost all. Shrewsbury's sprained wrist again kept him out of the visitors' eleven, while Mr H B Daft, who has batted of late very indifferently, was also absent. Indisposition prevented Moorhouse's playing for Yorkshire.

Nottinghamshire, who went in first, lost Mr Dixon – caught at extra mid-off – at 27, but the partnership of Gunn and Scotton lasted a very long time. The former, however, was missed by Middlebrook at short slip when he had made a single. After this escape his batting was faultless, while Scotton, generally so unattractive to watch, hit with freedom – for him quite remarkable. In an hour and a half he made 51 by five fours, seven threes, two twos and singles.

With Barnes and Gunn together the 100 was reached; but after luncheon the former quickly fell to the wicket-keeper, while Flowers, having stayed until 175, was bowled. Four down. Gunn gave another chance in the long field before he was finally dismissed. He hit nine fours, six threes and eight twos. The innings was rapidly finished off, the last five wickets averaging four runs each. Total, 225.

Yorkshire started badly, losing Hall when only a single was scored. Subsequently Lee hit well, but two other wickets were lost prior to the call of time. The weather was fine and several thousand people visited the ground.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 July, page 12)

There was a large company at Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, yesterday, to witness the second day's cricket in this match. Yorkshire, who had lost three wickets for 83, resumed their batting at a quarter past 12. Rain towards the close of the day made the wicket heavy.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 25 July, page 10)

Another victory has to be credited to the Nottinghamshire record, making the team's seventh consecutive success. In the contest which ended at Bramall-lane, Sheffield, yesterday, the powerful Midland side were for the first time this season severely pressed. After two days' cricket it was practically "anybody's game," as Notts, with their six best batsmen out in the second innings, were only 155 runs ahead.

Play was resumed yesterday at 20 minutes to 12, when the visitors' venture terminated for an

addition of three runs; Peel took three of the last four wickets without a point being scored from him. Yorkshire now required 159 for victory, a task of a most difficult nature considering the treacherous state of the wicket.

The start was most disastrous. Lee was finely caught in the slips, and both Wade and Peel were out when the figures had reached 10. Ultimately Nottinghamshire gained the victory by 36 runs.

21 July: DERBYSHIRE v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128507.html)

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

The return match between these clubs began yesterday on the county ground at Derby. In the first contest it may be remembered that Surrey gained a very decisive victory.

Yesterday, although several showers fell, the wicket gave the bowlers considerable assistance. Surrey went in first, and their innings extended over three hours. The scoring was slow, for the total of the innings amounted to only 123. Mr Key played very well, but the longest stand was by Wood and Sharpe.

Against the home side the bowling of Beaumont was most effective, and prior to the drawing of stumps he took seven wickets at an average cost of six runs. Chatterton, however, showed good form . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 July, page 12)

There was a thoroughly interesting day's play at Derby yesterday in the match between Surrey and Derbyshire. The latter were left with 182 to obtain for victory. They began admirably and secured nearly half the runs for the loss of three wickets. Three more batsmen, however, were dismissed in quick succession.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 25 July, page 10)

After a capital match Derbyshire suffered defeat at Derby yesterday by 48 runs. It was a very good performance on the part of the home side to score 133 in the last innings of the contest against such bowling talent as the Londoners possessed.

When play ceased on Tuesday night Derbyshire with four wickets in hand required 68 runs to win. The remaining batsmen, however, averaged rather less than five runs each, so that victory rested with Surrey.

22 July: GENTLEMEN OF MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v GENTLEMEN OF PHILADELPHIA (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/105/105700.html)

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

There seemed much more interest taken in the Philadelphians' match at Lord's yesterday than that shown when they appeared at the Oval last week. Marylebone placed a strong eleven in the field, and had the wicket been fast the scoring must have proved much heavier.

The visitors took the field shortly after 12 o'clock. Dr Grace and Mr C I Thornton, the first batsmen, obtained runs quickly, and in 50 minutes the figures reached 70. Mr Clark now bowled Dr Grace, while he dismissed Mr Stoddart with the second ball. Messrs Nepean and Thornton, however, scored quickly. The "100" went up at a quarter past 1, and 36 more runs were added before Mr Thornton was easily stumped. In his dashing innings of 73, the result of an hour and a half's cricket, he made 11 fours, three threes and five twos. Mr Vernon was quickly caught and bowled, while at 159 Mr Nepean, who had played remarkably well, was cleverly taken low down at mid-on.

Six wickets had fallen for 161, when Mr C C Clarke and the Rev R T Thornton became partners. These gentlemen scored at a very fast rate. They were together only an hour and a half, but in that time they added 168, the last 100 of which were put together in three-quarters of an hour. Mr Clarke was bowled at 329; he hit six fours, five threes and nine twos. The Rev R T Thornton was eventually well caught in the long field for a vigorous 111, in which there were 16 fours, five threes and four twos.

The Philadelphians had rather more than an hour's batting . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 July, page 12)

In the time that cricket was practicable at Lord's yesterday, the Gentlemen of Philadelphia slightly improved their position, although at the cost of another wicket. A heavy start delayed the start until a quarter past 12, and when the score was at 127 heavy rain drove the players to the pavilion and so saturated the wicket that further play was abandoned.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 25 July, page 10)

In spite of several showers, the wicket at Lord's yesterday became very difficult after luncheon, with the result that the Americans were altogether beaten by Dr Grace's and Mr Nepean's bowling.

Rain prevented a resumption of the game until ten minutes past 12, when Messrs Patterson and Stoever, the not-outs, were confronted by Dr Grace and Mr Horner. Very quickly 21 were added, and then Mr Stoever was stumped off Mr Nepean, who had displaced Mr Horner. Mr Brewster was soon bowled, but while Messrs Patterson and Newall were together the score rose rapidly. After two interruptions by rain Mr Patterson was bowled for a capital 52, in which there were three fours and six twos. Messrs Baily and Newall hit freely for a time, and the innings realized 235.

In a minority of 148, the Philadelphians followed on. This time they fared badly. Three wickets fell for 15 runs and half were captured for 37. The remaining batsmen added only 27, and the ultimate result was a victory for Marylebone by an innings and 84 runs. In the second venture Dr Grace and Mr Nepean bowled unchanged. Mr Robertson severely injured his left hand whilst fielding and was obliged to retire.

22 July: SUSSEX v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128231.html)

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

On the Hove Ground at Brighton yesterday the Sussex Eleven got much the better of their opponents. This was chiefly owing to the brilliant batting of Mr W Newham, the captain, whose hitting was well worthy of his great reputation. Hampshire occupied the wickets during the early part of the day, but with two or three exceptions, notably that of Mr Forster, the side made little headway against the Sussex attacks.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 July, page 12)

Hampshire showed much better form in their second innings at Brighton yesterday, but the heavy Sussex total placed the visitors in an overwhelming minority, and last evening they were easily beaten by an innings and 32 runs.

25 July: LANCASHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3480.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 July, page 12)

This was the county match arranged by Lancashire to be played away from the headquarters of the club. The Aigburth Ground, Liverpool, had been so saturated by the heavy rain of Wednesday that a start was delayed yesterday for 50 minutes. It was distinctly a “bowler’s day” – a fact that may be gleaned from the accompanying score . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 July, page 13)

At Liverpool yesterday the match between these counties ended in a victory for Gloucestershire by three wickets.

25 July: LEICESTERSHIRE v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128244.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 July, page 12)

Yesterday on the Aylestone-road Ground, Leicester, the powerful Surrey eleven entered the lists with Leicestershire – a side by whom they have twice been beaten in recent years. At the end of the day Surrey had obtained a considerable advantage.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 July, page 13)

The match between these counties was concluded yesterday at Leicester. Victory rested with Surrey by an innings and 92 runs.

25 July: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v LINCOLNSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/129/129428.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 July, page 12)

Heavy scoring was witnessed at Lord's yesterday, when Marylebone and Lincolnshire began a match. The club, who went in first, scored over 100 before they lost a wicket.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 July, page 13)

There was some extraordinary bowling at Lord's yesterday afternoon in the match between Marylebone and Lincolnshire. The game was resumed at half-past 11, and in three-quarters of an hour the Marylebone innings closed for 393. As the score will show they won the match by an innings and 313 runs.

29 July: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3481.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 July, page 5)

The return match between these counties attracted a large company to the Oval yesterday. On a slow wicket Sussex took first innings to the bowling of Lohmann and Beaumont. It was 10 minutes past 3 when their last batsman was out. Lohmann and Bowley divided the wickets, the latter's average – 4.4 – being by far the better. Abel and Mr Shuter scored 104 for the first Surrey wicket.

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

This match was brought to a close at the Oval yesterday. On Monday eventually Surrey had obtained a great advantage, as, having dismissed their opponents for 111, they obtained 207 for the loss of six wickets. Mr W W Read and Lockwood, the not-outs, remained together a very long time, and when at length Mr Read was taken at cover-point the partnership had realized 106.

Surrey won by an innings and 84 runs. The wicket gave the bowlers some assistance; but apart from Mr Newham, Bean and J Hide, the batting of the visitors was of a feeble nature.

29 July: YORKSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3482.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 July, page 5)

Yesterday at Bradford the Gloucestershire eleven began the second match of their northern tour, when they were opposed by that most unfortunate of teams – Yorkshire. The visitors' eleven was the same that defeated Lancashire last Friday. On a slow wicket Gloucestershire, who won the toss, took first innings. From the score subjoined it will be seen that the game is in an even state.

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

The cricket in this match at Bradford yesterday possessed many points of interest. On Monday evening the score was in an even state. Yesterday when Gloucestershire started their second venture they were 13 runs behind. They made 138, and then Yorkshire went in to get 126 for victory.

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

The long run of ill-luck which hitherto this season has pursued the Yorkshire eleven came to an end at Bradford yesterday, when after a capital match they beat Gloucestershire.

29 July: DERBYSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128508.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 July, page 5)

Two colts – Bennett and Guttridge – were given a trial by Nottinghamshire yesterday at Derby in the return match with Derby. The weather was fine, but recent rains had left the wicket slow.

Derbyshire went in first. Mr L G Wright, who carried his bat through the innings, was the only player who met with any success against the excellent bowling and fielding of the Notts team.

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

Nottinghamshire had no difficulty in beating the home county at Derby yesterday, winning by an innings and 26 runs.

1 August: KENT v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3483.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 August, page 5)

The match between these teams began yesterday at the Rectory Field, Blackheath. Surrey won the toss, and taking first innings remained at the wicket nearly all day. But they were indulged by their opponents, who made several mistakes in the field. The most serious was that by Mr Marchant, who missed Mr Read when he had scored three. The innings realized 252 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 3 August, page 11)

There was another capital day's cricket in this match at Blackheath yesterday. Kent, who had lost one wicket overnight for 26 against a total of 252 by Surrey, on resuming fared well, and shortly after luncheon the innings ended for 164. The home side who were 88 behind followed on, and at the close of the innings Surrey had 68 to get to win. In the few minutes left for play the score was advanced to the position given below . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 5 August, page 4)

Friday night's score foreshadowed a very easy victory for Surrey at Blackheath, and this result was reached on Saturday after considerable delay through rain. With all their wickets in hand the visitors required only 60 to win.

Henderson and Lockwood, who started the batting, ran the score up to 40, when the latter retired, bowled. Quickly afterwards Mr Key and Henderson were caught at wicket, but then Abel and Mr Read hit off the runs and won the match by seven wickets.

1 August: LANCASHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3484.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 August, page 5)

This return match was begun yesterday at Old Trafford, Manchester, Yorkshire going in first.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 3 August, page 11)

Five thousand people were present at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, when this match was brought to a close. Lancashire won the match by ten wickets.

1 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3485.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 August, page 5)

Gloucestershire began the third and last match of their northern tour at Nottingham yesterday when they met the powerful Notts Eleven.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 3 August, page 11)

At Trent-bridge yesterday the powerful Nottinghamshire eleven gained their tenth victory, when they beat the western county by an innings and 136 runs.

5 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3486.html)

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

Both with bat and ball Dr W G Grace was seen to great advantage yesterday in this match on the county ground at Bristol. Owing to the bad weather there was no play before half-past 1. Sussex then went in, but so feeble was their batting that in an hour and ten minutes Dr W G Grace and Woof got them out for 79.

The remainder of the day was occupied by the Gloucestershire innings. Dr W G Grace supplemented his effective bowling with vigorous batting. Going in first he made 84 and was seventh to leave at 143, hitting seven fours, ten threes and nine twos. Mr Townsend also played very well, and was in with his captain while 74 were added; he, however, had more than one escape.

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

There was a very slight improvement in the play of the Sussex Eleven at Bristol yesterday. On Monday against their first innings of 79 the Gloucester team scored 171 for nine wickets. Mr Page and Roberts added another 30 runs before they were separated; and the visitors went in a second time with a deficit of 122.

They lost two batsmen for 12, after which Mr Newham and J Hide made a stand, and the third wicket produced 33 runs. The rest of the side did little (the last seven averaged rather more than five runs each), and Gloucestershire were left in possession of the victory by an innings and 40 runs. On the treasurer turf the home bowlers had no difficult task in making the ball break considerably.

5 August: KENT v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3487.html)

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

This, the first match of the famous Kentish cricket festival, which always occupies the August Bank Holiday week, began yesterday at the St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury. As usual on these occasions, the town is decked with flags and is crowded with visitors, for whom a varied programme of amusements is provided, besides the spectacle of cricket. Among these amusements are the theatricals, rendered as usual every evening of the week by the company of amateurs known as the "Old Stagers." Yesterday the ground itself outside the field of play as studded with tents and banners, and with the large company present would have proved a brilliant spectacle had it not been marred by the rain, which prevented play before 1 o'clock.

After luncheon, however, the weather rapidly cleared and play began. Kent won the toss and went in first on a wet wicket. The following score will show that Kent had not completed the first innings at the drawing of stumps for the day.

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

The unsettled weather had little effect on the attendance for the second day of the "Week." The wet of Monday, however, had spoilt the wicket, and the St Lawrence ground yesterday gave the bowlers considerable assistance; indeed, to such an extent that the game went all one way, and as it now stands Middlesex can have slight hope of saving the match.

Kent, who had lost seven wickets for 208, resumed their innings at 20 minutes to 12. Mr Kemp quickly infused life into the play, but having made 40 he was caught at mid-off; he hit seven fours. The last two wickets added 27 runs and the innings ended for 256, a score that was well divided among the eleven.

By this time the wicket had grown difficult, and misfortunes set in early for the visitors. Against the bowling of Wright and A Hearne they fared badly. The captain was out at 13, and in spite of some vigorous play by Mr Stoddart, who, however, was twice missed, the figures at luncheon were 48 for three wickets. The interval over, there was a slight delay on account of rain. On resuming, an hour's play sufficed to finish the innings. Messrs Walker, Vernon and Hadow were clean bowled by Wright in the course of six balls, and after a short stand by Messrs Henery and Nepean, who added 16, the venture soon closed for 90. Wright's bowling analysis came out remarkably well.

In a minority of 166 Middlesex followed on. Messrs Webbe and Stoddart were again confronted by Wright and Martin. At 17 Mr Stoddart was stumped, seven runs later Mr Webbe left, and at 25 Mr Nepean's leg stump was bowled. Three down. Messrs Walker and Scott slowly took the total to 41, when the former returned the ball. Mr Vernon profited little by an escape at the hands of Mr Marchant, and Mr Hadow left at 62. Messrs Henery and Scott then played out time. It was distinctly a day for bowlers, who were assisted not only by the state of the turf, but also by a strong wind which blew across the wicket.

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

So far as regards the cricket, yesterday was an off-day at Canterbury. The hopeless position of Middlesex on Tuesday evening, when they wanted 101 to avert the innings defeat and only four wickets to fall, left very little interest in the game, and spectators did not muster in very great numbers. One of the features of the match was the extraordinary bowling of Walter Wright.

The game was resumed at 11.35, Messrs Scott and Henery, the not-outs, being opposed by Wright and Martin. Mr Henery was caught in the fifth over at third man. Seven for 79. Rawlin stayed while 18 were added, 12 of which Mr Scott made in three hits, and was bowled. West arrived and the 100 was reached, but subsequently the venture rapidly ended. Total, 111. Kent thus won by an innings and 55 runs.

In to-day's game there are two changes in the Kent eleven, Lord Harris and Bombardier Barton taking the places of Frank Hearne and Mr Rashleigh. Gloucestershire will be represented by Dr W G Grace, Mr J Cranston, Mr H V Page, Mr J H Brain, Mr E A Peake, Mr W W F Pullen, Mr F Townsend, Mr O G Radcliffe, Mr A C M Croome, Woof and Roberts.

5 August: SURREY v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3488.html)

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

From a cricket point of view the meeting of Notts and Surrey at the Oval furnishes one, if not the most, important contest of the year. The interest in the match is intense, and the preparations made for the big crowd proved quite necessary. Of course yesterday there was a little of the Bank Holiday element among the company, which came into prominence when the players refused to go on immediately after the cessation of rain. But the major part of the crowd appeared fully good-humoured, and their enthusiasm kept them on the ground in spite of the drenching the majority of them must have received. Apart from members 20,800 people passed the turnstiles.

Nottinghamshire appeared on the field with an unbeaten record, which comprised eight consecutive first-class victories, against Surrey's six wins and two losses. They played their strongest eleven. On the home side Maurice Read was displaced by Sharpe. Thus there was every prospect of a good game. Rain, however, played sad havoc with the turf, and its condition after luncheon foreshadowed a bowler's match.

Surrey, who lost the toss at Trent-bridge, were on this occasion successful, and, of course, Mr Shuter decided to go in. Precisely at 12 o'clock he and Abel were opposed by Shacklock and Attewell. Neither batsman could to any extent get the ball away, and six runs had taken quite a quarter of an hour to make, when Abel was finely caught at extra-slip. Mr Key joined his captain, but for a long time he seemed far from at home. Mr Shuter scored a couple of fours on the leg side from Shacklock, causing Richardson to take the ball at 24. Two runs later rain fell in torrents, and the downfall continued for an hour, completely saturating the turf. Indeed, it seemed quite probable that there would be no more play.

The weather, however, became very fine, and the game was resumed at 3.25. Attewell and Richardson were the bowlers. Each batsman made a four, and then Mr Key was finely caught at point. Mr Shuter, at 36, fell a victim to the wicket-keeper, who also secured his successor, Lockwood, when 24 runs had been very quickly added. Mr Read and Henderson were together a long time, but at 87 Attewell bowled the former by a ball which broke in and hit the middle stump. Under the unfavourable conditions he had played a very good innings of 35, consisting of two fours, two threes, five twos and singles.

Lohmann was dismissed – caught at extra mid-off – without alteration in the figures, but Wood hit with plenty of spirit. Once or twice he was nearly caught in the slips, and at another time he was almost bowled. Although the attack was changed at the pavilion end, the 100 was reached at 5.20, the hit which sent up the three figures being a drive by Wood, increased from four to five by an overthrow. Henderson, who had been in an hour and a half for ten runs, was nearly caught and bowled by Richardson, after which Attewell was given a rest from the gasometer end, where he had been on for three hours and had bowled remarkably well. Shacklock took his place, and in the first over Wood was badly missed by Barnes at slip. Apart from this mistake the Notts fielding was excellent.

Another heavy shower, at 5.40, again drove the players to shelter, and at 6 o'clock stumps were drawn.

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

That the attendance on the second day should number 20,000 was distinct proof of the great interest felt in the Surrey v Notts match. The enthusiasm was keen and the cricket was of a nature to keep the spectators in a state of excitement. Surrey on Monday had scored 122 for six wickets, and the game was resumed at half-past 11, Wood and Henderson, the not-outs, facing Shacklock and Attewell.

Nine runs were added, when Henderson, who had been in two hours for 17 runs, was well caught in the long-field. Sharpe quickly had his middle stump bowled, and eight wickets were down for 135. Beaumont now joined Wood, and after a delay of a quarter of an hour owing to rain, the bowling was changed at both ends, Attewell crossing over and Flowers going on in Shacklock's place. From Flowers's first ball Wood's superb innings ended, as Sherwin secured him at the wicket. He had been in an hour and a half, and his invaluable 49 included a five (a four increased by an overthrow), a four, four threes and six twos. Nine for 153.

Bowley and Beaumont added 19 for the last wicket in vigorous fashion, but the former was missed by Scotton at long-on before the last 15 of these were made. He was finally secured in that position by Mr Daft. It was a very good total in the circumstances, and far exceeded the score which seemed probable at one time, as the sixth wicket had fallen at 87. Wood, however, threw into his play plenty of spirit, a feature which many of the earlier batsmen lacked; and it was chiefly to him that the credit for the good Surrey total was due. Attewell was the most successful bowler.

Nottinghamshire went in shortly after 1 o'clock, Shrewsbury and Mr Daft facing the bowling of Lockwood and Beaumont. Runs were difficult to get, and the chief hits for a time were two fours by Shrewsbury, the second of which was gained by a brilliant cut. At 20 Mr Daft was bowled, and at 33 Shrewsbury played on, and thus in a very few minutes the aspect of affairs changed. Gunn and Barnes, however, hit freely, and although Sharpe and Bowley were tried, the figures at luncheon stood at 63.

During the interval rain fell heavily and made the turf unfit for further play until 20 minutes to 4. Lohmann now bowled from the gasometer end. He started in quite a sensational manner: his first ball hit Barnes's middle stump, and the second Flowers played under and was finely caught at slip. Nottingham's misfortunes did not end here, for at 72 Scotton was well caught at third man, and five batsmen were out. Mr Dixon, who came next, had a narrow escape of being caught at cover-point by Mr Shuter, who made a great effort to secure the ball. At 81, however, Gunn was well caught at mid-off for a capital 27.

Attewell came next, but after having seen Mr Dixon missed by Sharpe at long-off, he was well caught at slip, while Shacklock was out first ball – taken at cover-point. Six runs were still necessary to avert the "follow-on," when Richardson arrived. These Mr Dixon speedily obtained, and quickly afterwards the "100" went up. Eleven runs later Richardson was caught by the wicket-keeper, and Sherwin came in.

Then followed a most remarkable stand. Both batsmen hit vigorously, and although the Surrey bowling underwent many changes the score rose rapidly. Sherwin, however, was left off by Sharpe at mid-off when he had scored only two, and Mr Dixon gave a difficult chance to Mr Walter Read at point with his figures at 38. Tremendous cheers greeted the appearance of the 150 at half-past 5, and also Mr Dixon's 50 shortly afterwards. At length at 159 Sherwin was given out leg-before.

Forty-eight runs had been added for the last wicket. Mr Dixon, in spite of the mistakes mentioned, had played capital cricket, and his hits included six fours, four threes and eight twos. Thus Surrey were only 13 in front, a much less advantage than at one time seemed probable.

Surrey sent in Lockwood and Abel in the second innings, and they kept their wickets until the drawing of stumps. It is really anybody's match, and today's play will be anxiety awaited. Of course neither side would have scored so many had all the chances been accepted; but Surrey's errors at a critical stage cost them a great deal.

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

Southern cricket triumphed at the Oval yesterday, and the hitherto unbeaten Midland side succumbed to Surrey after a match rendered extraordinary by its many fluctuations. Certainly Surrey have avenged their Whitsun week defeat on Trent Bridge. Surrey bowlers had much to be proud of, for it was a great performance to get the Nottinghamshire side out twice so cheaply.

Lockwood and Abel achieved great success with the bat. They were largely responsible for the result, and the Surrey crowd showed their appreciation in a most commendably practical manner by subscribing during the interval nearly £50 for them. Lohmann and Beaumont also had a great share in a victory the popularity of which was evidenced by the immense crowd which gathered in front of the pavilion after the finish and cheered the respective members of the eleven in enthusiastic style. Yesterday's weather was glorious; the attendance fell little short of 20,000, and throughout the spectators were most enthusiastic.

Surrey, who were 34 runs ahead and their second innings practically intact, resumed batting at 11.35, Lockwood and Abel facing the attacks of Attewell and Shacklock. The latter at 36 gave way to Flowers. Runs, however, were added steadily, and although Barnes and Mr Dixon were tried the 100 was reached at half-past 12. The batsmen were well set; but when Attewell crossed over a change speedily came over the game. Lockwood was given out leg-before for a faultless 83, the result of an hour and 50 minutes' play; his chief hits were 11 fours, a three and 14 fives. The first wicket had realized 140.

When Mr Key arrived Abel was caught at cover-point for 53, in which were eight fours, four threes and three twos. Mr Walter Read was dismissed by Barnes at 158, while six runs later successive balls from Attewell sent back Messrs Key and Shuter, both clean bowled. Five wickets were now down for 164, and the sixth fell at 181, Lohmann having his leg stump hit by Barnes. After luncheon the figures reached 187, when Wood was easily caught at mid-off and Bowley joined Henderson. The former quickly grew busy, and by a drive he brought the 200 up at five minutes past 3. Five runs later a bailer from Barnes dismissed Henderson, and with eight wickets down for 205 Mr Shuter declared his innings at an end. It left a little over three hours for cricket, and Nottinghamshire to win had to average 73 an hour.

Shrewsbury and Mr Daft started the Nottinghamshire second venture at 3.25. Lohmann and Bowley shared the bowling. At first the play was quiet, but each batsman soon cut Bowley for four, while smaller hits raised the figures to 16 in 25 minutes. A ball from Bowley then got up sharp, and Mr Daft put it into the hands of Mr Read at point. The downfall of this batsman elicited loud applause from the Surrey partisans. Gunn arrived. The batting was very quiet, and for a long time the best hit was an off-drive by Shrewsbury for four. Lohmann in his next over got Gunn out leg-before. Two for 23, the result of 55 minutes' play.

Shrewsbury and Barnes were now together, and they soon started scoring freely. The 50 was reached at a quarter to 5, and the bowling then underwent a change, Beaumont displacing Bowley. In his second over he got rid of Shrewsbury, who, in trying to hit on the leg side, was clean bowled. He had played with great care. Three for 57. Scotton came next, but without addition Barnes in hitting round failed to get hold of the ball, and was caught at short-leg. Four down.

There now remained an hour and a half for cricket and six wickets to fall. Eight runs were slowly added, and Flowers was taken at point, five wickets being down for 65. Mr Dixon came in, and Scotton made a splendid off-drive to the boundary. At 74 a bailer from Beaumont sent back Mr Dixon, the captain, while an addition of seven saw Attewell clean bowled. The same fate was in store for Shacklock, who was dismissed by a ball which broke in considerably from the off. Indeed, he never attempted to play it. Seven and eight for 81. The end soon came, Scotton being caught at point and Richardson bowled. Total, 84.

Thus Surrey won by 134 runs. Lohmann and Beaumont had bowled magnificently. When the last wicket fell there was still 50 minutes left for play.

5 August: YORKSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128229.html)

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

The return match between these counties opened yesterday at Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield. Lord Hawke captained the home side and Mr F R Spofforth officiated in that capacity for Derbyshire.

Rain delayed the start until after luncheon, when Derbyshire, who won the toss, sent in Mr Wright and Evans. They started well, making 60 in an hour. Evans was first to leave – caught at wicket for a capital 47, in which there were eight fours and a three. He had not previously played for the county. Mr Wright and Chatterton added 78 for the second wicket, but then Hall was put on and quickly got out several batsmen. Mr Wright was in two hours, and his chief hits were two fours, six threes and eleven twos. From the score appended it will be seen that Derbyshire have secured a distinct advantage.

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

Little progress could be made with this match at Sheffield yesterday in consequence of the inclement weather . . .

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

Early yesterday there was more heavy rain at Sheffield, and Lord Hawke and Mr Spofforth when they inspected the wicket found it in such a bad state that they determined to abandon the match. Derbyshire had made 164 for six wickets.

8 August: KENT v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3489.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 9 August, page 6)

“Ladies’ day” at Canterbury furnished a very fine spectacle. The hop gardens by which the St Lawrence Ground is surrounded were hidden by numbers of coaches and other vehicles that were allowed on the side of the enclosure facing the tents. Among the latter those of the I Zingari and Band of Brothers attracted the most attention, by the fact, probably, that it was here that many who had made their name famous in the cricket world gathered.

Uncertain weather ushered in the week, but on Wednesday it changed for the better, and yesterday it was all that could be desired. The cricket shown was of a most enjoyable nature, and the company numbered quite 10,000. Both counties were thoroughly represented, and there was no alteration as to the sides announced.

The good fortune of Kent in the matter of the toss did not on this occasion forsake them, for Lord Harris beat Dr Grace in the spin of the coin and took first innings. Mr Patterson and A Hearne started well to the bowling of Woof and Roberts. After 40 had been made in three-quarters of an hour Dr Grace and Peake took up the attack, variations which proved particularly successful. The 50 was reached in 50 minutes, but three runs later Mr [Page] (the wicket-keeper), standing back, caught Hearne. Mr Patterson, who had played in excellent form, had his leg stump bowled down eight runs later.

When Mr Marchant came in, the field was at once deepened; he scored eight in three hits and the drove a ball hard into the hands of Roberts at mid-on, who failed to hold it. The old Cambridge captain batted brilliantly, but his innings was only brief, as he skied the ball and was cleverly caught by the wicket-keeper running to short leg. Three for 89. Mr Wilson arrived, and G Hearne was secured at extra slip, while Dr Grace clean bowled Mr Fox in the second over. Half the wickets down for 95 was a most moderate score after the excellent start. Bombardier Barton, of the Royal Artillery, and Mr Wilson made a stand. Both hit hard and clean. The 100 was reached in ten minutes. There were several changes in the bowling, but it was not until after luncheon that a separation was effected by Woof, who bowled Barton. Six for 137.

With Lord Harris and Mr Wilson as partners the score rose at a very fast rate. The last-named completed his 50 at half-past 3, and 50 runs were added for the wicket in rather less than 40 minutes. The well-timed hitting of both players was loudly applauded, as also was some fine fielding by Mr Croome, the Oxford University hurdle racer, who covered a lot of ground in the long field. Among the bowlers tried subsequently were Messrs Croome and Townsend. A hearty cheer greeted the appearance of 200 at ten minutes to 4, but a single later Lord Harris, trying to hit Mr Townsend, sent the ball tamely into the hands of short-leg. He had made 33 of 67 obtained during the partnership of 50 minutes.

More hard fielding was in store for the western county. Mr Kemp hit in dashing style, and all the bowlers he served alike. The vigour of his hitting may be gleaned from the fact that 50 were added in 25 minutes, while Mr Kemp completed his own 50 in half an hour. The stand had produced no less than 76 in 40 minutes, when Mr Kemp was stumped, the ball coming back off the wicket-keeper’s pads. His 51 was a most spirited innings, and consisted of eight fours, a three and three twos.

Wright came in next. There was a loud burst of applause when Mr Wilson completed his 100, precisely a third of the runs, for the 300 went up at the same time – 4.50. Directly after Dr Grace failed to make an easy catch from Mr Wilson off Mr Townsend's bowling. Mr Wilson added another 50 runs in half an hour, and the figures reached 352 before Mr Wilson's long and brilliant innings came to an end. He was bowled by Woof for 132. A better display of batting has rarely been seen on the St Lawrence ground. The majority of his runs were obtained by brilliant cutting and driving, while occasionally he would get the ball round to leg. He gave no chance before obtaining his 100. He was batting three hours, and made 18 fours, four threes and nine twos.

Wright was soon caught and bowled, and the innings ended at half-past 5 for 353, a total that had been got at an average of 78 runs in an hour. Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe opened the Gloucestershire innings . . .

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

There was again a large attendance at the St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury, yesterday. Fine weather and the excellent play furnished an enjoyable day's cricket. Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe resumed the Gloucestershire defence to the bowling of Wright and A Hearne.

Mr Radcliffe made two crisp cuts for four each, and Dr Grace scored six by a couple of strokes on the leg side. Martin then took up the attack in lieu of Hearne, a change that proved particularly effective, as at 45 he got the Gloucestershire captain caught at wicket for a patient 19, while, after to 50 had gone up at 12.20, Mr Radcliffe was out in the same way. Two for 50.

Messrs Pullen and Brain played with extreme care, tactics which were necessitated by the excellence of the bowling. Lord Harris cleverly caught Mr Pullen at short slip with the total at 66. Mr Cranston, who followed in, played carefully and, as there seemed some probability of a stand, Mr Fox relieved Wright, and he soon effected a separation, as, after Mr Brain had made a cut from each bowler to the boundary, he was cleverly caught by Lord Harris low down at slip. Four for 97. Mr Townsend joined Mr Cranston, and the 100 was at once signalled. There were now a couple of changes in the bowling, Barton and A Hearne going on. In the last over before luncheon Mr Townsend was caught at cover point, and five wickets were down for 122.

Mr Croome joined Mr Cranston after the interval. Both batsmen hit well, Mr Cranston's driving being especially good. The last-named gentleman, having been in an hour and a quarter, was bowled by A Hearne for 43. He had hit four fours, a three and four twos. Six for 143. Mr Croome was taken at third man at 171, but Mr Page threw plenty of vigour into his play and scored rapidly. Mr Peake stayed with him a considerable time, causing Martin to go on again, when he fell a victim to Wright at mid-off. With Woof in, the second hundred was reached at five minutes to 4, after which Mr Page scored 12 in one over from Mr Fox. Woof, however, was caught at wicket, and a brilliant catch by Mr Fox and long-on, which dismissed Mr Page, closed the innings at a quarter past 4. Total, 217. Martin, the left-hand medium bowler, had an excellent average.

Gloucestershire, who were in a minority of 136, followed on at 20 minutes to 5. They made a disastrous start, as at eight Dr Grace was caught at slip before he had scored. Matters improved, however, with Messrs Cranston and Radcliffe together. The former batted brilliantly, although one of the hits nearly cost him his wicket, the ball just escaping Mr Patterson at long-off. Sixty-two were made in three-quarters of an hour, and then Mr Cranston was taken in the long field for an

admirable 41, in which there were six fours.

In quick succession Messrs Pullen, Brain and Townsend were dismissed, and thus a great change had come over the game, for half the wickets were down for 78. Mr Croome and Mr Radcliffe were together when rain stopped the play a few minutes before the usual time for finishing.

Day 3 (report from Monday 12 August, page 10)

With a finish to this keenly exciting match the Canterbury week festivities came to an end on Saturday evening. The score on Friday pointed to an easy victory for Kent, but the rain on the last day kept the wicket far from difficult.

Gloucestershire, who with five wickets in hand, wanted 42 to avert an innings defeat, resumed batting at 11.50 to the bowling of Wright and Martin. The start was ominous, as the first ball proved fatal to Mr Croome – caught at wicket. Six for 94. Mr H V Page aided Mr Radcliffe, who had been playing with great care. The 100 was reached at noon. Shortly afterwards rain fell heavily and prevented further cricket until a quarter to 3 – allowing for luncheon it was a delay of an hour and a half.

Martin and Wright still shared the bowling. Runs, however, came rapidly, and a cheer greeted the cut for four from Mr Page by which the innings defeat was saved. There were several changes in the bowling, Mr Fox, A Hearne and Barton each going on. From the last-named Mr Radcliffe, having made 71, was missed by the wicket-keeper, who, however, at 185 secured Mr Page. In an hour and 50 minutes the partnership had yielded 91 runs. Seven down. Mr Peake arrived, and a four to square leg by Mr Radcliffe brought up 200 at a quarter past 5. Mr Peake, having been missed twice (at mid-off and wicket), ran himself out, and then the innings rapidly ended. Woof stayed long enough to enable Mr Radcliffe to complete his 100, and then both he and Roberts left at 214.

Mr Radcliffe's fine batting evoked much applause, and his excellent performance gained for him hearty congratulations. His play all round was equally strong. He went in first wicket down at eight and carried out his bat, having been in three and three-quarter hours. His figures comprised nine fours, six threes, ten twos and 27 singles.

Kent went in at 5 o'clock, having to make 79 for victory in 75 minutes, a task which it was generally thought they would accomplish. But Messrs Patterson and Wilson played so carefully that it took them 40 minutes to make 29 runs. In another ten minutes 14 were added, and then Mr Wilson was bowled. Messrs Marchant and Kemp were then out in trying to force the game, and when Barton was sent in there were 30 wanted in a quarter of an hour. Barton made several good hits, but when within eight of victory he was caught at forward short-leg; and, the umpires calling time, the game amidst some excitement was left unfinished. Mr Patterson played well, but far too steadily.

Friday 9 August: BANQUET TO DR W G GRACE

Last night Dr W G Grace was entertained at a banquet given by the Kent County Club in the Foresters'-hall, Canterbury. In proposing the toast of the evening – “Dr Grace” – Lord Harris said the task was not placed in inappropriate hands, for, apart from Dr E M Grace and Mr Hornby and one or two others, he was nearly the oldest playing cricketer. Father Time was an unerring cricketer who would one day knock down all our wickets. He hoped the time was long distant when Dr Grace would have to play that innings.

They had often experienced the vigour of Dr Grace's play, but the good city of Canterbury would always welcome the greatest of our cricketers. It could be honestly said that there was no pastime that the world had ever known which was so utterly devoid of anything mercenary as cricket. He deprecated the institution of cups. The fact of gaining a victory was sufficiently glorious in our ancestors' days; and why not in the present? Cricket had joined England and Australia closer together than they ever were before. In conclusion, he asked them to drink. To the greatest cricketer the world had ever seen. Dr Grace was an instance of the saying that whatever was to be done should be done with all our might.

Dr Grace, in responding, expressed his thanks for the honour shown to him. He concluded by remarking that he had seen good batting that day, and hoped he should see equally good to-morrow.

8 August: SURREY v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3490.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 9 August, page 6)

Though there was a fair muster of spectators at Kennington Oval on Thursday, the appearance of the ground was in marked contrast to that presented on either of the three previous days while the great contest between Notts and Surrey was being fought out.

Surrey, who were again without the services of Maurice Read, had the good fortune, for the second time in the week, to win the toss, and Mr Shuter elected to go in first, himself and Abel starting the defence. The first hour's play produced but 50 runs, and to this number Abel contributed a fifth share only. Ten minutes later, with the score at 59, Mr Shuter was caught at slip. Before the fall of the first wicket Burton, Mr Bacmeister, Mr Nepean, Mr Stoddart and Mr Hadow each in turn bowled, and during the partnership which followed between Abel and Mr Key all these bowlers again went on. It was left to Mr Webbe, however, to separate the batsmen named, who in the hour and three-quarters they were together added no fewer than 147 runs. Of this number Mr Key obtained 85 by means chiefly of 12 fours, five threes and six twos. A great deal of Mr Key's first 50 runs occupied but as many minutes, and throughout the innings he made no real mistake.

Mr Read was Abel's next companion, but there was no very long stand for the third wicket. Abel, having taken nearly twice as long to score 85 as Mr Key had done, was well caught by Mr Vernon running from mid-off. Abel's chief hits were eight fours, three threes and eight twos. Henderson joined Mr Read with the total at 239 for three wickets, and before he left it stood at 355. The addition of 116 for the wicket was made in an hour and 35 minutes. Henderson obtained little more than a third of the number, but he played, as usual, in very taking style and made no serious mistake. Indeed, the batting all through the day was remarkably free from fault.

Soon after the incoming of the professional who had done so remarkably well on the previous day Mr Read advanced his score to 100, having obtained this number in two hours and ten minutes. The total at this time was 367, and by half-past 6, when stumps were drawn, it had been increased to 385. Play lasted altogether five hours and 35 minutes, and Middlesex tried seven bowlers.

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

At the close of the opening day's play in this match Surrey's score stood at 385 for four wickets. Yesterday eight wickets fell for 205 runs, and then the rain prevented the game being further proceeded with.

Mr Read and Lockwood, who were not out respectively 110 and nine, continued batting at ten minutes to 12. Lockwood secured the first 12 runs made and was then bowled, the fifth wicket falling at 397. It was at this stage that Lohmann, whose batting was the only noteworthy feature of the latter portion of the Surrey innings, came in. He witnessed, at 406, the dismissal of Mr Read, who, out of 200 runs scored in the three hours he was batting, made 116 by means chiefly of 17 fours, three threes and seven twos – a splendid innings altogether, and the first of three figures hit this season by Mr Read in an important county match – and then hit out in most dashing style.

The innings lasted an hour and a half after Lohmann came in, and of the 111 runs made in this

young cricketer secured 79. He and Sharpe were together an hour for the last 49 runs obtained in the innings; but all but nine of this number was from Lohmann's bat. The end of this remarkably fine exhibition of vigorous cricket came through Lohmann missing a ball which he intended to drive. His chief hits were a five, eight fours, three threes and seven twos. The innings closed for the magnificent total of 507 – a number of runs which had been accumulated in six hours and three-quarters.

Middlesex went in at a quarter to 2 with Messrs Webbe and Stoddart, opposed by Lohmann and Bowley. At 43 Henderson relieved Lohmann. One run after the change Mr Webbe was bowled, and at 53 Mr Scott was easily caught at point. Mr Nepean joined Mr Stoddart, who played capitally, and by 4.20 the total was 83. Then rain again stopped play, and stumps were drawn for the day at half-past 5.

Day 3 (report from Monday 12 August, page 10)

Notwithstanding their long outing at Kennington Oval while Surrey were accumulating the prodigious total of 507, and the absence of all chance of winning, Middlesex, it will be remembered, made a very good start when at last it became their turn to take the bat in hand. Before a wicket fell 44 runs were scored and, though a second batsman was soon disposed of, Messrs Stoddart and Nepean bid fair to make a big stand. It was, under the circumstances, unfortunate that the rain came on Friday to interrupt the visitors' innings, as up to the time of play being stopped the wicket was in capital condition for batting, whereas on Saturday it was by no means so easy for the earlier batsmen.

The two players named, who had on the second evening of the match taken the score from 5 for two wickets to 83, were separated the following morning after adding 12 runs in just over 20 minutes. Mr Nepean, caught smartly at slip, was the one to go, and his dismissal was quickly followed by that of Mr O'Brien, who was suffering from an injured arm, and therefore was at a great disadvantage. Each of the early bowlers, Lohmann and Beaumont, thus secured a wicket in the first 40 minutes' play. The last-named should really have been credited with both, as Mr O'Brien was missed off him by Lockwood at long-on. Notwithstanding, Beaumont had to give way to Sharpe at 110, and the change soon bore good fruit, for off the new bowler, at 118, Mr Stoddart was caught at mid-on, which was a good thing for Surrey. Though scoring less rapidly than is his wont, Mr Stoddart for two hours and ten minutes played remarkably fine cricket, making amongst his hits seven fours, four threes and eight twos.

With half the wickets down Mr Hadow joined Mr Walker. The latter played in better form than he has generally shown this season, and deservedly met with greater success; his partner made a lot of lofty hits, but most of them went to a safe position. When he had scored two only Mr Hadow might have been caught by Bowley at mid-on, but subsequently he managed to steer clear of the fieldsmen. Together these two, despite frequent bowling changes, put on 43 for the sixth wicket. Then Mr Hadow was finely taken in the long field.

Mr Vernon hit up 28 of the next 51 runs, but half way through his innings he was missed at long-off by Mr Shuter. At the same total, 212, Mr Walker's capital innings closed. His stay, during which 102 runs were obtained, extended over nearly an hour and a half; and his share, amounting to 44, was composed chiefly of five fours and as many twos. West and Burton increased the total to 236, and then Mr Read secured the last two wickets in one over, bringing the innings to a close at 3 o'clock.

Following on at 20 minutes past 3 against the formidable majority of 271, Messrs Stoddart and Webbe, especially the former, made runs at a rapid rate. In less than half an hour, the total was 44, but then Mr Webbe, caught at the wicket, had to leave, and for some time after this wickets were obtained at a pretty cheap rate. Mr Stoddart, who did not play such good cricket as in the first innings and escaped being caught when he had made 27, saw Mr Scott bowled at 48, and was himself neatly stumped at 60. Mr Nepean, caught at extra slip, left at 76; ten runs later Mr Walker was taken at slip, and at 87 Mr O'Brien, who was in 50 minutes for ten runs, had to go.

The conclusion of the match seemed near at hand, but Messrs Hadow and Vernon hit well and freely, and were not parted until 135, when the former was bowled. Mr Vernon, who made his runs in 40 minutes, was out in the same manner at 166. West, missed by Mr Shuter at cover-point as soon as he came in, made good use of his escape. He scored practically two-thirds of the last 62 runs, and made the great majority of his hits in very good form. As the total of the innings amounted only to 197, Surrey, who on Saturday seemed to hold their opponents rather cheaply, won by an innings and 74 runs within 25 minutes of time. It will be obstructed that neither Maurice Read, who is suffering from a bad hand, nor Wood, whose eyes are still weak, played in this match .

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9 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v NORTHUMBERLAND (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128233.html)

Day 2 (report from Monday 12 August, page 10)

The marvellous batting of Gunn and Attewell in this annual match at Lord's on Friday and Saturday enabled Marylebone to amass 428 runs for two wickets. The home club then declared their innings at an end.

On going in, the county, against the formidable bowling, made the respectable total of 141, but were not quite so successful in the follow on, and Marylebone were the easiest of winners by an innings and 170 runs.

8 August: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LONG VACATION CLUB v GENTLEMEN OF PHILADELPHIA (not first-class)

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

Day 2 (report from Monday 12 August, page 10)

Our American visitors completed their cricket programme at Cambridge on Saturday, when they beat the Long Vacation team by an innings and 12 runs. The Philadelphians fielded and bowled well. In the double innings Mr Baily claimed 14 wickets for 87 runs, or an average of a little over six runs each.

12 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3491.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 August, page 10)

These counties (both of whom had been defeated at the Oval during the past week) met yesterday at the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham. The home team won the toss and went in on a soft wicket. Shrewsbury and Scotton were opposed by Mr Bacmeister and Burton.

Runs were obtained very slowly; indeed, the first 16 occupied a little over two minutes each. Mr Nepean now received the ball from Burton, and at 25 Mr Stoddart superseded Mr Bacmeister. Shrewsbury sent Mr Nepean to the boundary, the first hit of note yet made. At 30 Mr Ford went on, and six runs later Scotton was clean bowled. Gunn, after being missed by Burton at mid-off, was secured at slip, and at luncheon the total had been advanced to 61 for two wickets.

Barnes, who went in with Shrewsbury, was caught at cover-point, and Flowers arrived. The "100" was signalled at ten minutes to 4, but five runs subsequently Shrewsbury's excellent innings was closed by a catch at point. His chief items were five fours, one three and nine twos; he was batting a little less than three hours. Flowers hit freely, and the innings closed for 161. Middlesex went in . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 August, page 12)

Play in this match was resumed yesterday on the Trent-bridge Ground. The first day's play left the game fairly even, as Nottingham were all out for 161 and three of the visitors' wickets were down for 34. Messrs Nepean and Hadow (the not-outs with 16 and 5) faced the attacks of Shacklock and Attewell.

The start was most disheartening for Middlesex, as at 36 Mr Hadow was bowled, and half-a-dozen runs later Mr Vernon obstructed his wicket. Five for 40. Messrs Ford and Nepean, however, soon put a different complexion on affairs. In spite of changes in the attack their partnership yielded 52 runs, when Mr Nepean was bowled; he had batted admirably for four fours, three threes and three twos. The last four wickets only added 13 runs, the innings closing at 1 o'clock for 105.

Nottinghamshire, with 56 to their credit, sent in Mr Dixon and Shrewsbury. Messrs Bacmeister and Nepean had charge of the early bowling. The latter was very effective, and at 13 dismissed Mr Dixon. Gunn was quickly secured at wicket, and Barnes joined Shrewsbury, who had just previously given a difficult chance to short-leg. A two-fold change in the attack was adopted, but up to the interval this had made no impression on the batsmen.

Soon afterwards Mr Nepean found his way to Shrewsbury's stumps. Flowers came, but lost the company of Barnes, who got in front of his wicket. Flowers now did most of the hitting. He was the ninth to leave, with the total at 164; he had been batting two hours and his chief figures were nine fours, four threes and seven twos. The last wicket added a couple of runs – total, 166.

Middlesex, with 223 to win, began batting a second time, and Mr Webbe was again bowled by Shacklock . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 15 August, page 6)

The inclement weather experience yesterday at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, prevented what promised to be a capital finish to the return match between these counties. Middlesex, with nine wickets to fall, had 196 to get to win. Rain fell heavily all morning, and after luncheon Messrs A J Webbe and J A Dixon, the respective captains, decided to abandon the game.

12 August: SUSSEX v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3492.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 August, page 10)

In gloomy weather these counties met yesterday on the Hove Ground, Brighton. Sussex won the toss, and at 10 minutes past 12 Bean and Tebay went in. Briggs and Watson were the bowlers. The innings needs little description. Eight batsmen managed to get 17 runs between them, and the entire innings only realized 64.

After the luncheon interval Mr Eccles and Barlow opened the Lancashire batting. J and A Hide conducted the attack. The total was quickly advanced to 41, when A Hide handed the ball to Mr Godfrey, in whose opening over Mr Eccles was run out. Barlow, who was at the wicket two hours and ten minutes for 55, returned the ball. Among his hits were one four, five threes and seven twos. As a contrast to this patient batting, Briggs scored 56 in precisely half the time. His chief hits were nine fours, three threes and three twos. As will be seen from the score appended there was a plentiful batch of "extras".

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 August, page 12)

At the Hove Ground, Brighton, at the drawing of stumps on Monday evening, each side had completed an innings, Lancashire being in a majority of 161. At 20 minutes to 12 Bean and Tebay began the home team's second innings.

The score soon reached 19, when Tebay was dismissed by a bailer. Mr Newham joined Bean and the batting quickly triumphed. The latter hit with great vigour. Several changes in the bowling were tried, but it was not until 54 had been put on that Bean returned the ball; his chief hits were six fours, three threes and three twos; he did not give a chance. [Hide] did little, and fine ball from Watson brought Mr Newham's patient innings to a close. Half the wickets were now down for 95. The remaining five only added 33 runs. Total 128. Thus Lancashire were victorious by an innings and 33 runs.

12 August: YORKSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3493.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 August, page 10)

The Kentish eleven visited Bramall-lane, Sheffield, to start their return with Yorkshire. In the absence of Lord Harris the Kentish men were under the captaincy of Mr Patterson, who won the toss and went in with F Hearne.

The run-getting of the soft wicket was slow. Six batsmen were dismissed for 27 in an hour and a quarter. Mr Fox and A Hearne were then together two hours, during which time they added 67. In Mr Fox's 40 were four fours and five twos, and Hearne's 42 comprised five fours, a three and five twos. The innings realized 121. Yorkshire started badly . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 August, page 12)

Yesterday, at Bramall-lane, Sheffield, the match between these counties was continued. On the previous innings Kent had finished an innings for 121, and four of the northerners were out for 27. Yesterday the six outstanding wickets were secured for an addition of 20, not one of the eleven having reached double figures; total, 47.

Kent, with 4 runs in hand, started their second venture with Mr Patterson and F Hearne. The attack was opened by Peel and Wade. On a most difficult wicket the Kent captain batted excellently. F Hearne was stumped, and Peel clean bowled G Hearne and Mr Marchant. Mr Fox joined Mr Patterson, and at the interval they had advanced the total to 63. On resuming, Mr Patterson was finely stumped and Mr Fox was eventually bowled. A Hearne carried out his bat for 17, and the innings closed for 102.

Yorkshire, who have fared so badly this season, now had 177 set them to win. They only got a trifle over half of this number, but it must be said that the wicket played very treacherously. Kent were thus victorious by 82 runs.

12 August: ESSEX v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128235.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 August, page 10)

Distinctly one of the most interesting fixtures of the Lyttelton Ground programme was the visit of the Surrey eleven, whose performances this season have been in keeping with their great reputation. Mr Key, Mr Shuter and Beaumont were absent from the Surrey side yesterday, and their places were filled by Mills, Brockwell and Sharpe, while Mr Fielding kept wicket in lieu of Wood.

Essex had a very good team and, winning the toss, they went in at 1.10, the delay having been caused by the bad weather. Messrs Lucas and Owen started well and, although Bowley, Lohmann, Sharpe and Brockwell were tried, they raised the figures to 32 for the first wicket, when Mr Owen was bowled. Mr Buxton gave little trouble – caught at wicket – Mr Lucas having been just previously taken at slip. Mr Rowe left at 67, but Mr Gosling and Burns made a very useful stand and, aided by some mistakes in the field, raised the score to 106 when Mr Gosling was caught at slip for a capital 31. From this point Essex, who had been faring pretty well, went to pieces, and in a little over a quarter of an hour the innings collapsed, the last five batsmen being captured for four runs. Bowley took the first seven wickets for 31 runs and Lohmann got the other three in his last two overs.

Surrey had an hour and 20 minutes' batting. Neither Mr Read nor Abel scored many runs, although the latter was in nearly 50 minutes. Lockwood and Brockwell, however, proved very attractive to watch, a drive by the last-named for five being an especially good stroke. Mr W Read was caught at third man shortly before stumps were drawn.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 August, page 12)

Essex are to be congratulated their really excellent performance against Surrey and Leyton yesterday. When play ceased on Monday evening there was little to choose between the sides, as Surrey with five wickets in hand had made 75 against a score of 110 by their opponents. The innings rapidly ended yesterday morning. Brockwell lost his wicket through venturesomeness, and the last five wickets were captured in a little over half an hour for an addition of 25. Pickett and Mr Bishop both bowled remarkably well, the former's six wickets averaging less than nine runs each.

With a balance of ten in their favour Essex went in a second time at 20 minutes to 1 against the excellent bowling of Lohmann and Bowley. Messrs Lucas and Buxton took 25 minutes to score eight runs, and then the latter was caught at wicket. Brockwell went on at 32 and speedily bowled Mr Lucas, while at 36 the third wicket fell through Mr Owen returning the ball. Messrs Gosling and Rowe speedily hit up 37, but the longest stand of the innings was that between Mr Gosling and Burns, whose partnership realized 66. Subsequently Mr Gosling received considerable aid from Littlewood, but eventually he himself was ninth out at 182. During the two and a half hours he was at the wicket he played a capital innings; his fine forward batting was quite characteristic of the Eton style. His chief hits were six fours, two threes and six twos.

Surrey had 193 to get for victory. The wicket played treacherously and disaster met the Surrey team at every point. Pickett and Mr Bishop made the ball do wonders. Maurice Read, Lockwood, Brockwell, Abel and Mr Read were out in 25 minutes for 15 runs. Afterwards Lockwood made one

or two good hits, but the rest of the innings contained no incident of note, and shortly after 6.30 Essex won the match by 135 runs. Pickett, who had bowled so well, was presented with a little over £26, collected round the ground and in the pavilion for him. Mr C E Green, in addressing the enthusiastic crowd which had assembled in front of the pavilion, said that the county was greatly indebted for their success to the bowling of Pickett.

12 August: WARWICKSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128505.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 August, page 10)

The feat of dismissing the great western county for 120 was accomplished by Warwickshire at Birmingham yesterday. Five of the batsmen were got rid of for single figures, increasing Dr W G Grace. Heavy rain had saturated the ground on the previous day.

Cricket is full of curiosities, and this match provided one. Warwickshire were all disposed of for the same total as their rivals – 120. The top scorer on each side – Mr Cranston and Mr Mott – was credited with 30, and there were four “extras” to each eleven. At the close of an innings to both teams stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 August, page 12)

Yesterday’s cricket at Edgbaston, Birmingham, furnished a striking contrast to the even nature of the opening day’s play. Then the sides tied on the first innings, but yesterday the Gloucestershire team showed fine batting form.

Dr W G Grace headed the score with a fine innings of 64. After the dismissal of Mr Radcliffe at 33 he had Mr Cranston for a partner, and before they were separated 101 were added for the second wicket. Dr Grace played with care on the difficult wicket, and was in two and a half hours for his runs, which included four fours, five threes and six twos. Mr Cranston, who has shown such consistently good form this season, hit four fours, three threes and four twos in his 46. Messrs Page and Brain subsequently played well, and Warwickshire had 211 to get for victory.

Dr W G Grace and Woof, however, got them out in a few minutes over the hour for 52, and Gloucestershire won by 153 runs. Thus the western county have retaliated for their defeat by Warwickshire early in the season. Five thousand people watched the game.

14 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v CHESHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128477.html)

Day 1 (report from Thursday 15 August, page 6)

At Lord's, yesterday, during the time that rain allowed play, some capital batting was witnessed. Cheshire won the toss and took first innings. Mr Crankshaw and Wright scored 66 before they were separated, and subsequently Brown and Davison showed fine form.

Day 2 (report from Friday 16 August, page 8)

This annual match was concluded at Lord's yesterday. Cheshire, who on Wednesday had lost three wickets for 139, scored so freely that at 279, with seven batsmen out, they declared their innings closed. They were unable, however, to dispose of Marylebone twice, and the game was drawn . . .

15 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3494.html)

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

Gloucestershire were seen to considerable advantage on the Clifton College ground yesterday in their match with the formidable Notts eleven. The weather was fine and there was an enthusiastic company present.

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

The close of an innings each on Thursday in this return match at Clifton left the Western county with an advantage of 18 runs. Yesterday they began their second innings at 10 minutes past 11 in delightful weather. Dr Grace and Mr Radcliffe went first to the wickets. Attewell and Shacklock led the attack.

The batsmen played carefully, and the total was only taken to 19 when Mr Radcliffe was clean bowled. Mr Brain, who followed, was secured at short-leg. Dr Grace was caught in the long-field, and the ninth wicket fell for 60. Mr Cranston was too ill to play, and thus the innings closed for the number mentioned.

Nottinghamshire now required 79 for victory, and sent in Shrewsbury and Flowers. Woof and Roberts were the bowlers. Each batsman had an escape – Shrewsbury should have been caught at point when a single only had been registered, and at 27 Flowers gave a chance at square-leg. Profiting by these indulgences, they remained together and successfully defied all efforts to separate them. At 20 minutes past 3 a hit by Shrewsbury won the match for Nottinghamshire by ten wickets.

15 August: SURREY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3495.html)

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

For some years past the Lancashire and Surrey matches have been, so far as regards results, very evenly divided. Last season, for instance, it may be called to mind how Surrey, after winning in a day at Manchester, lost on the Oval through their bad fielding, while more recently they were beaten easily at Manchester.

Lancashire's return visit to the Oval attracted some 7,000 people yesterday to see the first day's play. With the exception that Mr A G Steel was absent from the Lancashire team, both counties played their strongest elevens.

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

About 8,000 people visited the Kennington Oval yesterday to witness the second day's play in the return match between Surrey and Lancashire. There was a great improvement in the weather, but the wicket, especially during the morning, gave the bowlers considerable assistance. On Thursday Lancashire secured an advantage, as, after scoring 226, they got out three of their opponents for 18.

Surrey resumed their batting at 11.35, Mr Key, the not out with seven, being accompanied to the wicket by M Read. Watson, who shared the bowling with Briggs, speedily disposed of the two Reads, and the fifth wicket fell at 37. With Henderson for a partner, Mr Key played in excellent form. Several of his drives were especially brilliant, and the 50 appeared at 10 minutes past 12. The attack was varied for the first time at 62, Mold superseding Briggs, a change which success speedily attended, for at 66 Mold bowled Henderson.

At 72 Watson closed Mr Key's superb innings. He had been in an hour and a quarter for 43, in which there were five fours, four threes and three twos. Lockwood was bowled at 84, but Lohmann and Wood made a good stand for the ninth wicket, and the figures reached 107 before Wood was taken in the long-field. Beaumont quickly had his wicket disturbed, and the innings ended at a quarter past 11 for 111.

Surrey had to follow on against a majority of 115. They started disastrously, losing both Mr Key and Abel before a run was scored. Messrs Read and Shuter, however, made a stand. The former hit the ball thrice to the boundary on the leg side, and at the interval the score was 20. After luncheon Mr Shuter was finely stumped at [34], but with the two Reads together there seemed every promise of an improvement, both playing wonderfully well. Maurice Read got Briggs twice to the leg boundary, and his companion sent Watson to the on for four. Fifty went up at 10 minutes past 3, but nine runs later Mr Walter Read in attempting to drive sent the ball into the hands of slip.

Henderson's stay was brief as at 69 Mold, who had displaced Briggs, bowled him, while at 94 Lockwood left. Then followed brilliant batting by Maurice Read and Lohmann, both playing with great judgment. The 100 was sent up by a fine cut to the boundary by Read, while two drives by Lohmann realized eight and averted the innings defeat at five minutes past 4. There were other changes in the bowling; and after three-quarters of an hour, the partnership having yielded 54, Maurice Read was caught at cover-point. He has rarely played a better innings than his 63, which

included eight fours, two threes and five twos. Wood stayed while 20 runs were added, and Beaumont and Bowley each gave Lohmann some assistance. The total reached 187, and Lohmann took out his bat for an exceptionally good innings of 66, the highest score of the match. He made six fours, four threes and nine twos.

Lancashire went in to get 73 to win. After losing two wickets for five runs, they fared very well, Ward and Sugg both playing capital cricket. Fifty went up at a quarter past 6, and shortly before the half-hour the runs were obtained, and Lancashire won by eight wickets. Sugg hit seven fours. It is a long time since Surrey were beaten twice in a season by one county. Yesterday's victory was well received; a large crowd assembled in front of the pavilion and loudly cheered the winners.

15 August: SUSSEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3496.html)

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

After their victory over Yorkshire the Kentish eleven journeyed south and yesterday began their return match with Sussex on the Hove Ground, Brighton. The weather was fine and the attendance large.

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

At the close of the first day in this match on the Hove Ground, Brighton, the play pointed to an almost certain victory for Kent, and such it proved. When stumps were drawn on Thursday evening the visitors had completed an innings for 258, and seven Sussex batsmen were disposed of for 51.

Yesterday at 25 minutes to 12 Messrs M'Cormick and Godfrey (the not-outs with 8 and 4) continued their batting to the attacks of Wright and Martin. A catch at square-leg dismissed Mr M'Cormick and Mr Godfrey was bowled off his pads. Nine for 70. Mr Hartley-Smith and A Hide made a determined stand and added 27 runs before the former was got rid of. Total, 97.

With the heavy deficit of 161 runs the home team followed on. Quaife and Bean were opposed by Martin and Wright. When 19 runs had been scored the former fell to a catch at mid-off; seven later Bean played the ball into cover-point's hands, and at 35 Mr Newham was stumped. At the interval five batsmen were out for 61. Afterwards the remaining half of the wickets were secured for an additional 62. A Hide played well, as did Humphreys, the latter carrying out his bat. Total, 123. From the complete score attached it will be seen that Kent, whose bowling and fielding were admirable, were the winners by an innings and 38 runs.

15 August: YORKSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3497.html)

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

The Middlesex team visited Halifax yesterday and contested the Yorkshire eleven.

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

Another interesting day's cricket was witnessed yesterday at Halifax, when these counties continued their return match. At the drawing of stumps on Thursday evening, Middlesex, having gone in against a total of 151, had lost two wickets for 57.

Mr Webbe (the not-out with 29) accompanied to the wickets by Mr Vernon. Peel and Ulyett were the bowlers. The Middlesex captain was out "l.-b.-w." from the first ball, and an additional five runs saw Mr Ford caught at mid-off. Messrs Vernon and Paravicini batted in excellent form, and the sixth wicket produced 31 runs. The last four, however, only averaged a little over three each. Total, 108.

Yorkshire, who had 43 in hand, went in a second time at 1 o'clock. Four good batsmen were out for 24, when Lord Hawke and Wainwright became partners. Both for a little while batted brilliantly and put on 42 for the fifth wicket, when the total stood at 66. The innings then rapidly ended for 90.

Middlesex went in with 134 set them for victory, and when rain stopped play a quarter of an hour before the usual time they had obtained 22 at the cost of a wicket.

Day 3 (report from Monday 19 August, page 6)

The heavy rain on Friday night completely spoilt the wicket at Halifax, and on Saturday, after waiting until luncheon time, it was decided to abandon the return match between Middlesex and Yorkshire. With nine wickets to fall, the visitors wanted 112 runs to win, so that there was every prospect of a good finish.

16 August: NORTHAMPTONSHIRE v STAFFORDSHIRE

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

Day 2 (report from Monday 19 August, page 6)

These counties played a match on Friday and Saturday at Northampton. The home eleven amassed a total of 372, of which number Bull was creditable with 123. He was batting three hours and ten minutes, and did not give a chance. His chief hits were a five, nine fours, eight threes and eleven twos.

Staffordshire also scored freely, and in spite of the fact that they had to follow on they managed to avert defeat, the game ending in a draw.

19 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3498.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 August, page 6)

For the annual week at Cheltenham this year a most attractive programme has been provided in the return engagements of the western county with Surrey and Middlesex. The college ground was largely attended by spectators yesterday, and although the weather became unsettled it did not prevent a thoroughly good day's cricket. Both counties were well represented.

Gloucestershire won the toss and took first innings. The score reached 201 when the innings came to a close. Mr Cranston's brilliant not-out score of 111 included nine fours, nine threes and 3 twos. With the close of the home innings play ceased for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 8)

The second day of the Cheltenham week furnished cricket that quite equalled in excellence the play of Monday. Although the weather was rough, there was a large attendance of spectators.

Gloucestershire, who had finished an innings for 201, turned out to field at half-past 11, and their early bowlers were Woof and Roberts. Mr Shuter was unable to play through indisposition, and his substitute, Brockwell, went first to the wickets with Maurice Read. Surrey's start was disastrous: at seven Brockwell was caught at wicket, and a single later Woof, with consecutive balls, sent back Mr Key and Mr Read. Abel stayed until 28, but seven runs only were added when Lohmann was out, making five wickets down for 36.

Maurice Read and Henderson, however, were partners for a considerable time, but each had an escape. Before they were separated the score was taken to 124. Henderson, who was caught at cover-point, played steadily, his defence vividly contrasting with the vigorous batting of Read. The latter had a further life prior to his ultimate dismissal at 157. His 93 included a five, eight fours, three threes and 15 twos; he was in rather less than three hours and was thrice missed. Some free hitting by the last few batsmen raised the figures to 183, so that after all there was only a difference of 18 runs between the innings.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe opened the home team's second venture in fine style. Dr Grace made many brilliant hits before a fine running catch in the long field brought about his dismissal. Mr Pullen left at 42, but Messrs Brain and Radcliffe were partners until 72. This good start was followed by a series of misfortunes for Gloucestershire. Brockwell in one over got out Mr Cranston, Dr E M Grace and Mr Townsend, and the sixth wicket fell at 78. Subsequently Mr Radcliffe was out for a very good innings . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 22 August, page 4)

Inclement weather again made itself unpleasantly felt at the Cheltenham week's festivities yesterday. So heavy was the rain during the morning that cricket was out of the question before luncheon, and subsequently it delayed the game until 4 o'clock. Subsequently the game was left drawn, Surrey, with six wickets to fall, requiring only 14 to win.

19 August: KENT v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3499.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 August, page 6)

In the charming ground at Mote-park, Maidstone, yesterday, these counties began their return match. Successful in the toss, Kent went in, Messrs Fox and Patterson being opposed by Watson and Briggs.

The start was by no means hopeful, as the third ball clean bowled Mr Fox. G G Hearne remained until 20 were reached, when he unfortunately played on. Mr Wilson joined Mr Patterson, and the total was soon advanced to 42, when Watson gave way to Mold, in whose opening over Mr Wilson was bowled, leg stump. A short delay was then caused by rain. Lord Harris went in with Mr Patterson. The Kent captain's stay was brief, and Mr Marchant arrived. The latter soon grew busy, but with 24 runs added Mold found his way to his wicket. Mr Rashleigh unfortunately played on, and A Hearne assisted Mr Patterson. These batsmen brought about a double change in the attack, Watson and Barlow going on. The 100 was completed at ten minutes to 2.

After the interval Mold was tried again in place of Barlow. With the score at 111 Mr Patterson was bowled, the ball getting up very quickly and striking the top of the wicket. His excellent innings, made without a chance being given, was composed of five fours, a three, five twos and singles. Seven wickets were now down, and the last three only added 17. Total, 128. Lancashire went in, but at a quarter past 4 rain stopped play for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 8)

There was a heavy downpour of rain at Maidstone during Monday night, and play in this return match at the Mote Park was not resumed until a quarter past 12. Even then the ground was very heavy and the ball so greasy that it was difficult for the fieldsmen to hold it. At the end of the first day, Kent were all out for 128, and Lancashire had lost Mr Hornby's wicket for 18.

Barlow (the not-out with nine) had Sugg for a companion. The last-named batsman soon hit with freedom, making a drive for four from each bowler. The total was rapidly advanced to 69, when Wright handed the ball to A Hearne, in whose opening over Sugg should have been caught at mid-off by Martin. He only added five to his score, however, when he was run out. He had made his 49 in 55 minutes, and his chief figures were a five (four from an overthrow), four fours and seven twos. When A Ward joined Barlow runs came at a very tardy rate, until at 96 the former, who had been 50 minutes getting ten runs, was stumped.

After the interval Briggs, who went to the wickets with Barlow, soon hit freely, and the total was sent up to 142, when he was caught at cover-point, having previous given a chance to Mr Wilson; his hits were five fours, five twos and four singles. The last wicket fell for a total of 215. Barlow carried his bat through the innings, and his 51 runs had taken four hours and 50 minutes to obtain; among his hits were four fours, two threes and three twos. Kent, who were 87 behind, went in a second time . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 22 August, page 4)

When play ceased in this match at the Mote-park, Maidstone, on Tuesday the northern county had a distinct advantage. Each side had completed an innings, and Kent, with the heavy arrears of 87, had lost Mr Rashleigh's wicket for five runs.

Yesterday, in dull weather, the game was continued soon after 11 o'clock, when A Hearne (the not-out with four) was accompanied to the wickets by Mr Patterson. Briggs and Watson bowled throughout. The play was all against the batsmen, none of whom reached double figures. Half the wickets went for 21 and the remainder only added 31. Thus Lancashire were the winners by an innings and 35 runs.

19 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3500.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 August, page 6)

At the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, yesterday, the home county (who are the head of the leading counties with a record of nine victories out of 11 matches, one defeat and one drawn game) began their return contest with Yorkshire.

Lord Hawke won the toss, and at five minutes past 12 o'clock sent in Ulyett and Hall. The bowling was intrusted to Attewell and Shacklock. Twenty-one runs were made in as many minutes when Ulyett was bowled. Lee was speedily disposed of, while Peel, who followed, lost his wicket through the ball running up his pad and falling on to the wicket. Three for 25. Wainwright ran himself out. Lord Hawke then aided Hall. At 66 Attewell relinquished the ball to Flowers. This did not have any effect on the batsmen, and at the interval 78 runs were recorded.

Afterwards the bowling was conducted by Shacklock and Attewell; but when 23 had been added the latter gave way to Richardson and crossed over. The 100 was signalled at a quarter past 3, half of this number being from Lord Hawke's bat. Eleven runs subsequently Flowers was tried, and at 129 Barnes went on. The latter change proved effective, as Lord Hawke was soon caught at the wicket; he had batted vigorously and his chief hits were seven fours, two threes and 11 twos. His partnership with Hall had lasted two hours, during which 91 runs were scored. Brown arrived, but at 161 rain stopped play for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 8)

Torrents of rain fell during Monday night at Nottingham, so that, although there was a high wind, the turf at Trent-bridge was not fit to play on yesterday morning. It was decided, therefore, to wait until the afternoon. Little progress was made with the game on the opening day, as after Yorkshire had scored 61 for five wickets stumps had to be drawn.

At 3.10 yesterday Hall and Brown (the not-outs, with 44 and 13) went in to the bowling of Attewell and Richardson. The play was very tedious and runs came at about the rate of one every four minutes. When the score had reached 171 Hall was bowled. His batting was characterized by even more than his usual patience, and his 47, made without a chance having been given, comprised three fours, two threes, six twos &c. Wade joined Brown, and 21 runs were added in an hour. At 192 three were dismissed from Attewell's bowling – Wade, Moorhouse and Whitehead. Brown carried out his bat for a well-played 35, the innings closing at ten minutes past 5 for 199 runs.

Nottinghamshire had an hour's batting and sent in Mr Dixon and Shrewsbury. Both hit freely and 45 runs were freely scored, when Mr Dixon was secured at cover-point. Gunn arrived to the assistance of Shrewsbury, who just before the time for drawing stumps had arrived was caught by the wicket-keeper.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 22 August, page 4)

Rain completely spoilt the play in this return match at Trent Bridge, Nottingham. On each day

there was a downpour. The game was left drawn at a critical point, as the home county wanted a dozen runs to avert the follow on and two wickets to fall.

19 August: DERBYSHIRE v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128469.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 August, page 6)

Strong elevens were engaged in this return match on the county ground at Derby yesterday. At the outset the weather was fine.

The home side won the toss and went in. One of the most notable features of their innings was the stand made by Chatterton and Sugg for the second wicket, which added 66. Davidson, who went in third wicket down, batted well for his 39 and saw the rest of his side dismissed, the innings realizing 189. Rain then stopped play for the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 8)

Derbyshire secured a material advantage in their return fixture with Essex at Derby to-day. As on Monday, rain considerably interfered with cricket, which was not practicable before 3 o'clock.

The visitors then went in against their opponents' score of 189. They fared badly, the first five men on the "order" making only 24 between them. Mr Fowler, Burns and Jones played steadily, but the innings was over in two hours for 91.

A deficit of 98 necessitated a follow on. At their second appearance they were a little more successful, though at the end of the day the arrears had not been made up.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 22 August, page 4)

With few exceptions the Essex batsmen played very feebly in this match, which ended at Derby yesterday. The home side won by ten wickets.

19 August: SOMERSET v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128474.html)

Day 1 (no report found from Tuesday 20 August)

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 August, page 8)

These counties began their return match at Taunton on Monday and concluded it yesterday. The bowling of Mr S M J Woods, at Cambridge University, and Tyler was so good that Hampshire could not cope with it to any extent; and, after having followed on, they were eventually defeated by an innings and 34 runs.

22 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3501.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 August, page 3)

More wet weather furnished fresh cause for complaint yesterday, when the second stage of the Cheltenham Week was proceeded with in the presence of a numerous company. Shortly before 4 o'clock, rain stopped the game for the day . . .

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

Visitors to the College Ground at Cheltenham yesterday witnessed an excellent day's cricket, in which Dr W G Grace's fine batting furnished the most prominent feature. The weather showed little improvement during the morning, but became fine as the day wore on.

Gloucestershire, who had lost six wickets for 146, resumed batting. Dr W G Grace and Painter (the not outs with 63 and 8) were opposed by Messrs Nepean and Stoddart. An addition of 22 saw Painter caught at wicket, but Mr Page stayed with his captain a very long time. Bowling changes were frequent, yet the second hundred was reached at half-past 12, and some 20 minutes later on a loud cheer greeted the completion of Dr Grace's century. Eventually Mr Page was caught at wicket after the partnership had yielded 83. Dr Grace saw both Roberts and Woof out and remained unconquered, having carried his bat through the innings. He was in four and a half hours, and his only mistake was a chance to Burton in the slips with his figures at 39. He hit 11 fours, four threes and 17 twos. In first-class matches Dr W G Grace has this season scored 1,046 runs, with an average of a fraction under 33 an innings.

Middlesex started badly, losing Messrs Webbe and Stoddart before a run was scored. Subsequently there was good hitting by Messrs O'Brien, Hadow, Henery and Vernon. Mr Hadow's 40 was a very vigorous display, and consisted of six fours, three threes, a two and five singles. Middlesex followed on in a minority of 104 . . .

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

The Week at Cheltenham terminated on Saturday, when Gloucestershire and Middlesex finished their return match. Fine weather succeeded a night's heavy rain, and in spite of two brief delays through showers an excellent day's cricket was well enjoyed by a numerous company.

In consequence of the wet turf it was deemed inadvisable to play before noon, when the visitors continued their second innings. They had followed on against a majority of 104, and Messrs Ford and Paravicini had scored 11 without mishap. They were opposed by Roberts and Woof. Mr Ford hit with great vigour, but the wicket keeper and Mr Cranston each missed him early in his innings, mistakes that proved very expensive to the home side. Although there were many changes in the bowling, Mr Ford completed his 50 with the score at 66. At 87 the first wicket fell, a catch at mid-off sending back Mr Paravicini, who had batted steadily. With Mr Stoddart in, the figures travelled even quicker than before. The 100 was signalled at 1.40, and at the interval the score was 138.

After luncheon 33 were added, and then Mr Ford was at length bowled for a brilliant innings of 108.

He was batting an hour and three-quarters, and his hits were ten fours, five threes, 16 twos and 21 singles. Mr Stoddart was eventually stumped for a vigorous 45, the result of an hour's batting; he made eight fours. With seven wickets down for 240, Mr Webbe declared his innings at an end.

There remained an hour and ten minutes for play, so that as the home side required 137 to win the probability of a definite issue to the contest was very remote. Dr W G Grace did not go in again, but five of the other batsmen were rapidly disposed of, and finally the game was left unfinished. In spite of the unsettled weather experienced during the whole of the festival the two games played furnished capital cricket, and the western county are to be congratulated on the good form shown against the powerful metropolitan sides.

22 August: LANCASHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3502.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 August, page 3)

The meeting of these powerful sides at Old Trafford, Manchester, has been anticipated with great interest, and keen disappointment was felt when yesterday the turf proved unfit for cricket. It was early in the morning when the captains came to a decision to postpone any play until to-day.

Mr A G Steel will assist Lancashire, and the other members of the side are – Mr A N Hornby, Barlow, Sugg, A Ward, Briggs, Pilling, Mold, Watson and Baker. In the absence of Mr J A Dixon the Nottingham side will consist of Mr H B Daft, Shrewsbury, Barnes, Gunn, Attewell, Sherwin, Scotton, Flowers, Shacklock, Richardson and Butler.

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

There was more delay at Manchester yesterday, and the heavy rain rendered the turf impracticable for cricket until after 4 o'clock. Lancashire, who lost the toss, then came out to field, and Shrewsbury and Flowers, who opened the Notts batting, were confronted by Watson and Briggs.

From the third ball Flowers was caught at wicket amidst the cheers of the onlookers, of whom there were about 6,000. Gunn came in and steady scoring ensued. The figures were carried to 36, when Gunn was taken at mid-on, after which wickets fell rapidly. Barnes, Mr Daft and Scotton were bowled for an additional 14, and thus half the wickets were down for 50. Neither Attewell nor Butler gave much trouble, while at 69 Shacklock returned the ball. With the latter's dismissal play ceased for the day. Shrewsbury batted very well on the bad wicket.

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

The Lancashire and Nottinghamshire return match at Manchester, which was anticipated with so much interest, had to be abandoned on Saturday, to the disappointment of cricketers in general. Lancashire's brilliant victories in the South had inspired their supporters with great confidence. However, the rain quite spoilt the match, and it was only possible to play for an hour or so on Friday. Nottinghamshire then lost eight wickets for 69, Shrewsbury being not out with 33. Watson and Briggs had bowled unchanged during the Nottinghamshire batting . . .

22 August: SURREY v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3503.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 August, page 3)

On a treacherous wicket the opening day's play in the return match between these neighbouring counties was got through yesterday at the Oval. Although the weather was somewhat boisterous it was fine until late in the afternoon, and spectators mustered in strong force.

Kent took first innings, but against the attacks of Beaumont and Lohmann little headway could be made. The latter missed Lord Harris at slip from the first ball of the match, but with the figures at seven he clean bowled him. Mr Patterson and G G Hearne raised the figures to 18, from which point wickets fell rapidly. G G Hearne made the only double figures on the side. Five batsmen were out for 31, and the others added slightly over half that number. The innings occupied an hour and three-quarters, and the last wicket fell shortly before luncheon for 48.

Surrey did considerably better in their attempt, which occupied about the same time. Mr Read batted well until caught at wicket, while Henderson and Mr Shuter each reached double figures. Five batsmen were dismissed for 54, while the others averaged nearly eight runs each.

With a deficit of 44 Kent began their second innings. Lord Harris left in the first over, and when Hearne came in rain drove the players to shelter before a run was scored. The weather did not improve and stumps were drawn shortly before 6 o'clock. It will be seen that the bowling was remarkable.

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

It was thought on Thursday evening that Kent would certainly meet with more success in their second innings against Surrey, although they had lost Lord Harris's wicket and were still 44 runs behind. But yesterday the turf was as treacherous as on the opening day, and the numerous company which assembled at the Oval simply saw, for the most part, a procession to and from the wickets by the Kent batsmen.

Mr Patterson was out in the first over – caught at wicket – and at 11 a catch at slip disposed of Mr Marchant. The visitors' misfortunes pursued them throughout the morning. Mr Fox was taken at mid-on at 24, and seven runs later the sixth wicket fell, A Hearne playing on. With F Hearne and Barton together the score travelled to 48, and when the latter was secured by the wicket-keeper Kent were only four runs ahead. Mr Kemp did not survive an over, while F Hearne, who had made several good hits, was well caught at point at 50. Martin quickly left, and the innings ended for 53. As in the first venture, Beaumont and Lohmann bowled unchanged.

Surrey wanted only ten to win, and these M Read and Mr Shuter obtained in three hits. The former made a drive for four and a snick for two, and Mr Shuter cut Martin for five – all run out. Thus Surrey won by ten wickets.

Saturday 24 August: SURREY v HAMPSHIRE

Early in the season, it will be remembered, Hampshire could not raise an eleven to play at the Oval. It has now been arranged that the Surrey and Hampshire return shall take place on September 2 at Kennington.

22 August: SUSSEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3504.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 August, page 3)

After their drawn match at Nottingham the Yorkshiremen journeyed south, and yesterday the same eleven appeared on the Hove Ground, Brighton, against Sussex.

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

There was a full day's cricket yesterday at Hove, Brighton, when these counties continued their return match. The weather was fine and the company numerous. At the drawing of stumps on the previous evening the Yorkshiremen were all out for 158, and two of the home wickets were lost for 42.

At 20 minutes to 12 Messrs Newham and Brann were opposed by Peel and Wainwright. The start was bewildering, as five wickets collapsed for six runs. Seven for 48. There were still 31 required to prevent the follow-on, and there seemed little likelihood of these being obtained. Messrs Dudney and Godfrey, however, did their side excellent service, and the last batsman was not disposed of until 95 runs were registered. Time, 12.45.

Yorkshire, with 63 runs in hand, opened their second venture with Hall and Ulyett. The latter was clean bowled by Bean when 17 were made. Lee then joined Hall, and these batsmen played in fine style. The score was rapidly taken to 50, soon after which, however, Lee fell to a catch at wicket and Hall was caught at slip. Three for 53.

After the interval Wainwright was quickly run out; Peel returned the ball; and Brown was bowled middle stump. Six for 66. When half a dozen runs had been put on Lord Hawke hit the ball into mid-off's hands. Wade and Moorhouse gave the attacking side considerable trouble, and 45 runs were the result of their partnership. Wade was then bowled, and at 141 a catch at mid-on sent back Moorhouse. The latter had batted vigorously, and his 44 was made up of six fours, two threes, two twos &c. The innings realized 150.

Sussex now had 214 set them to win, and at 5 o'clock sent in Bean and Quaife to the bowling of Peel and Wainwright. When 16 were scored Bean was stumped. Quaife and Mr Brann were both clean bowled, and at 42 Mr Newham fell to the dexterity of the wicket-keeper. Humphreys and Tebay played out time.

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

Although at the close of Friday's cricket in this match at Hove, Brighton, the result seemed a foregone conclusion for Yorkshire, there were not wanting many Southern enthusiasts who yet hoped that Sussex would show the uphill play for which they are noted.

The home side started batting on Saturday requiring 135 for victory, with six wickets to go down. Humphreys and Tebay (the not-outs, with 9 and 11) went to the wickets, which the night's rain had rendered easy. Peel and Wainwright were the bowlers. The total was advanced from 61 to 85 when

rain delayed play.

On resuming Whitehead was put on in place of Wainwright. After having given a sharp chance to Ulyett at point, Humphreys played on with the score at 93, and before a run was added Tebay was stumped. Six down. J Hide and Mr Andrews caused the 100 to be reached at five minutes to 1. A single was made and then the latter was bowled, making way for Mr Dudney. Fine hitting was shown for a few overs, and Whitehead handed the ball to Wainwright. A chance was given to J Hide in the long-field to Moorhouse, which that player did not accept. At 128 Mr Dudney was bowled, and Mr Godfrey was served in the same way a single later. Nine for 129.

A Hide joined his brother and they added 16, when the former was dismissed, and the innings closed at half-past 1 for 145. From the complete score attached it will be seen that Yorkshire won by 68 runs.

22 August: LEICESTERSHIRE v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128247.html)

Days 1 and 2 – no reports or scorecards

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

At Leicester, on Saturday, the visited team seemed to have an easy victory within their grasp. They began their second innings with only 45 set them for victory and an hour and a quarter left in which to get them. With the exception of Mr Lucas, they appeared powerless against the bowling of Pougher and Wright, and at the end of the day they had only obtained 39 and lost seven wickets. Thus the match was drawn.

26 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3505.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 27 August, page 5)

A powerful Kentish eleven visited Clifton yesterday and played the home county on the College Ground.

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

The whole of the time available for play in this return match on Monday at Clifton was occupied by Kent in compiling the substantial total of 295. Yesterday in delightful weather Gloucestershire started their batting with Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe. A Hearne and Martin were the bowlers.

The start was very feeble, as when four were made Mr Radcliffe left and Mr Brain appeared. The Gloucestershire captain should have been taken in the long field at nine, and it was not until 36 were reached that a separation was effected, when Mr Brain was clean bowled. Beyond Dr W G Grace and Dr E M Grace, the other batsmen did little, and after an hour and a half's play the ninth wicket fell for 77. Mr Cranston had injured his hand on the previous day and could not bat, so the innings closed.

With the heavy arrears of 218, the western county followed on with Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe, who ran up 55 prior to the interval. Afterwards, when 14 were added, the former fell to a catch behind the bowler. Mr Radcliffe, who hit with great vigour, eventually obstructed his wicket. He was in two hours and had made 82 out of 148; his chief figures were nine fours, three threes and nine twos. Mr Townsend also batted freely . . .

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

In the return match between these counties, concluded at Clifton yesterday, Gloucestershire had again to play an uphill game, and, as in the first contest, under these conditions they were seen to considerable advantage. But unlike the case at Canterbury time on this occasion proved an ally of Kent, who gained a decisive victory. When stumps on the last day were drawn in the first match Kent, with six wickets to fall, only required eight to win.

On Tuesday evening, at Clifton, the home eleven with really only one wicket to fall (Mr Cranston being injured) in their second innings, were 42 runs ahead. Mr Townsend and Roberts, the not outs, with 68 and 12, continued the Gloucestershire batting to the attacks of Martin and A Hearne. With 18 runs added, Mr Townsend was bowled for a fine innings of 83, which had lasted two hours. His chief hits were five fours, five threes and 14 twos. The ninth wicket put on 54 runs. In the absence of Mr Cranston the innings closed for 278, and Kent were left with 61 to obtain for victory.

Lord Harris and Mr Patterson began this task shortly after 12 o'clock to the bowling of Woof and Roberts. Both batsmen scored rapidly, and at 33 Mr Radcliffe displaced Roberts. Mr Patterson played on at 47, after which Lord Harris, with Hearne for a partner, obtained the other runs, and a drive to the boundary by the Kent captain won the match for Kent by nine wickets.

26 August: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3506.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 27 August, page 5)

Yorkshire have not this season met with that success which was expected. They have met with an almost unvaried series of misfortunes, and their success last Saturday at Brighton must have been an agreeable surprise to many of their supporters. The unevenness of the two counties' records detracted nothing apparently from the interest felt in the return match between Surrey and Yorkshire, as 5,000 people were present at the Oval yesterday to see the first day's play . . .

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

There was a long and exciting day's cricket at Kennington Oval yesterday, when the match between these counties came to an end. In order to finish the game time was extended until light became so bad that spectators on the boundaries could see very little of the last few overs. The weather was fine, and 7,000 or 8,000 people were present.

On Monday evening there was really very little to choose between the elevens, as Yorkshire, with practically their second innings to play, were 30 runs ahead. Hall and Wade, the not-outs, were opposed by Beaumont and Lohmann. The score rose steadily, and although Shape went on the figures reached 26 before Wade was taken at point. Lohmann quickly dismissed Ulyett, but Lee and Hall made a stand, and despite bowling changes added 46. Lee was bowled at 75, Hall at 97 and at 109 Wainwright left. Five down. Subsequently Peel, Brown and Moorhouse played well, but the last four wickets averaged only eight runs each, and in the absence of Lord Hawke through an injured hand the innings ended for 141.

Surrey were left with 166 to obtain for victory – no easy task on a wicket assisting the bowlers. The start was not hopeful against the attacks on Wainwright and Peel. Abel, Mr Shuter and Mr Read were dismissed in a little less than an hour for 25 runs, while an addition of 18 saw Lohmann bowled. Four for 43. Mr Key and Henderson played well. By slow degrees the score travelled to 78, when Mr Key, who had shown admirable form, lost his wicket in attempting a second run; he was cleverly thrown out by Whitehead from short-leg. Five down.

Eighty-eight were still required when Lockwood arrived. Both batsmen seemed anything but at home, and at 97 Lockwood, in playing forward to Wainwright, was clean bowled, while Wood left at 105. There now appeared every probability of Yorkshire winning, as 61 were still wanted by Surrey and only three batsmen to leave, one of whom, Read, was injured. Sharpe assisted to add 31 before Ulyett went on and bowled him in his first over. Eight for 136.

Beaumont came next. After being badly hit on the hand, the new batsman played cautiously, and although bowling changes were frequent 26 runs were wanted when the time for drawing stumps arrived. It was agreed to play on, although the light was even then all against the batsmen. It rapidly became worse, but they struggled on and at five minutes to 7 a cut by Henderson to the boundary won the game for Surrey by two wickets amidst great excitement. The value of Henderson's not-out innings speaks for itself; he hit four fours, six three and seven twos. The Yorkshiremen fielded brilliantly.

29 August: GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND v I ZINGARI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3507.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 August, page 6)

Delightful weather was experienced at Scarborough yesterday, when the annual cricket festival began with the Zingari and Gentlemen of England match. Strong teams had been selected. The turf had not quite recovered from the wet weather, and the England captain, having won the toss, elected to send his opponents in.

At noon precisely Messrs Walker and Webbe were placed on their defence to the attacks of Messrs Stoddart and Woods. The start was discouraging, as in the first over Mr Walker was clean bowled. Mr A G Steel arrived, and matters soon improved. The new-comer had an escape at the hands of Mr Key at mid-off when he had scored ten. The total was then advanced to 20, when Mr Webbe returned the ball. Mr Whitfeld was soon bowled; but Mr Hadow and Mr Steel kept together for a time, and it was not until 51 had been reached that the former was clean bowled.

Four batsmen were now rapidly dismissed for an addition of seven. Mr Vernon and Captain Hedley were both run out, Mr Steel was finely caught at point and Mr Forster was bowled. Eight for 58. Mr Paravicini and Mr Philipson ran up 17. The latter was then caught at cover-point. The Hon A Lyttelton was originally included in the eleven, but his place was taken by Mr Frank. This gentleman and Mr Paravicini took the score beyond the 100. To this number only two were added when Mr Frank was caught at long-off. The innings ended a little before 2 o'clock.

After the interval Dr W G Grace and Mr Thornton opened the Gentlemen of England's batting. Mr Steel and Captain Hedley were the early bowlers. The former quickly disposed of Mr Thornton; but Mr Stoddart and Dr Grace batted so well that the bowling had to be varied. They took the total to 39, when Mr Stoddart cut the ball into the hands of point. Mr O'Brien's appearance was the signal for free hitting by both batsmen. Despite bowling changes they doubled the score, the figures standing at 78 when Mr O'Brien left. Mr Key obstructed his wicket and Captain Dunn was bowled.

Mr Nepean came, and the "100" was announced at a quarter to 5, soon after which the last-named batsman was caught at slip. Dr Grace fell to a similar catch. He was the seventh to leave, and had been batting two hours and a quarter, and his 58 comprised seven fours, a three, five twos &c. Mr Ford was caught at wicket, and Messrs Woods and Croome played out time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 31 August, page 10)

There was an interesting day's cricket at Scarborough yesterday, when the first match of the festival came to an end. Overnight the Zingari had made 102 and the Gentlemen 193 for eight wickets. In a quarter of an hour the latter's venture closed for an addition of ten runs.

With a deficit of 101 the Zingari went in a second time. Messrs Woods and Stoddart shared the early bowling. Mr Walker was quickly out, but Mr Steel, who followed in, was seen to great advantage, and soon caused several changes in the attack. Dr Grace and Mr Ford both went on, but at the interval Messrs Webbe and Steel had raised the figures to 80, Mr Steel not out 55. Subsequently wickets fell rapidly to the fine bowling of Mr Woods. Mr Steel was got rid of when a single innings defeat had been averted. In his brilliant 65 there were seven fours, four threes and

eight twos. Ultimately the Gentlemen won by five wickets.

29 August: KENT v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3508.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 August, page 6)

With two such powerful elevens as represented Nottinghamshire and Kent in the field, it was not surprising to find a very large attendance of spectators yesterday at the picturesque ground of the Beckenham Club. With this match the first-class county season comes to an end. Lord Harris captained the home side and Mr Dixon the visitors, for whom Mr H B Daft again played.

Choice of innings fell to Nottinghamshire, who sent in Mr Dixon and Shrewsbury at 12 o'clock. Wright and Martin were the bowlers. The early play was quiet, but after each batsman had scored two, Mr Dixon got under a ball and was easily taken at extra slip. Gunn came in. Neither batsman could punish the bowling to any extent for some time. Nearly half an hour elapsed before the figures reached ten, after which, however, the rate of scoring increased. Shrewsbury had a narrow escape; he cut a ball which went just out of Lord Harris's reach at slip. A lofty hit by Gunn realized four, but the figures had reached only 25 in 50 minutes, when a fine one-handed catch by Wright at mid-off sent back Shrewsbury.

Barnes joined Gunn, and the play became very quiet. The former, however, hit Wright to leg for four and snicked him with a like result, causing Mr Fox to take the ball at 48. Gunn then drove Martin twice in succession to the boundary, and that bowler gave way to Bombardier Barton, an alteration which immediately had the effect desired, as with his first ball the Artillery man bowled down Barnes's leg stump. The partnership had yielded in an hour 32 runs. When Flowers came in the figures were increased to 61 before luncheon.

Subsequently, Mr Fox and Barton again shared the bowling. Flowers threw plenty of vigour into his batting, cutting each bowler for four and driving them with the same result. Martin resumed the attack at 76, and with 18 added, he got Gunn well caught at wicket; he had been in two and a quarter hours and his hits were three fours, five twos &c. The character of the game underwent much alteration in the course of a few overs; Flowers was clean bowled before a run was added and at 98 Mr Daft was given out leg-before-wicket. Three wickets were down when 90 was up, while six were lost for 98.

With Attewell in, an off drive for two by Scotton brought the 100 on the telegraph board at 3.45. A dozen runs were steadily added, and then Attewell played a ball from Mr Fox into his wicket. Seven for 112. Shacklock's stay was brief and unproductive, for he was clean bowled without alteration in the figures. Scotton and Richardson scored slowly until, at 125, a dextrous catch by point (G Hearne) dismissed the former, the ninth wicket falling at 125. Sherwin, the last man, soon drove Mr Fox for four, but only nine runs were added when Richardson was bowled, and the innings ended at a quarter to 5 for 134. Throughout the Kent fielding had been brilliant, and this largely accounted for the comparative meagreness of the Notts total, which occupied in compilation a little less than four hours. The wicket, owing to a heavy dew, was slow up to luncheon. Mr Fox had bowled with great success.

Lord Harris and Mr Patterson opened the Kent innings at 5 o'clock to the bowling of Richardson and Attewell. Mr Patterson, among other items, made a cut for two, while a similar stroke by Lord Harris realized three. Then the play became quiet, and beyond a couple of twos to Mr Patterson there was little to note. However, the batsmen soon grew busy again. Two leg-hits brought Lord

Harris four runs, while his companion cut Attewell for three.

The last-named at 27 handed the ball to Shacklock. In his first over Lord Harris played on, and George Hearne arrived. He twice got Shacklock to leg for a couple. Barnes was put on in lieu of Richardson at 38, but each batsman played him for three, and then stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 31 August, page 10)

After one of the keenest matches of the season (in which southern cricket triumphed), the last of the county contests ended at Beckenham yesterday in brilliant weather and before many thousand people. All day the wicket greatly assisted the bowlers, who made the most of their opportunities. The drawing of stumps on Thursday evening left the score slightly in favour of the home side, Notts having made 134 and Kent 44 for one wicket.

The game was resumed at 20 minutes past 11. The not outs, Mr Patterson and George Hearne, were opposed by Richardson and Attewell. From the first ball Mr Patterson gave a hard chance at wicket; but this mistake mattered little, as, with seven runs added, he was clean bowled by Richardson for a capital 28. Mr Marchant, who followed in, supplemented a leg hit for three by Hearne with a couple of drives for two each and a hit to leg for four. At 66, however, an easy catch at mid-off disposed of him, and then Kent experienced a series of misfortunes. Having made a couple, Mr Fox was clean bowled at 68; a single later George Hearne played a good ball from Attewell into his wicket; at 70 a clever catch by Barnes (slip) sent back A Hearne; while F Hearne, having added three by a drive, was bowled. In the course of 40 minutes six wickets had fallen for 29 runs.

Mr Kemp and Bombardier Barton, however, greatly improved matters. Mr Kemp's lively cricket furnished much that was amusing, while Barton showed great care. Mr Kemp made several very fine strokes; he sent Richardson to leg and drove Attewell for four each. A drive for three from Barton brought on Shacklock in lieu of Richardson at 95. Each batsman secured two by a drive – that of Barton's being a chance to Richardson in the long field. The 100 was signalled at 12.35. A run later Barton was bowled – middle stump. Twenty-eight runs had been made for the eighth wicket. With Martin in Flowers displaced Shacklock, and at 117 he got the new batsman caught at cover-point, while Attewell quickly bowled Wright, the innings ending for 118 at five minutes to 1. Mr Kemp took out his bat for an invaluable 28.

At a quarter past 1 Shrewsbury and Mr Dixon began the visitors' second innings to the bowling of Martin and Mr Fox. There was a balance of 16 in favour of Notts. The start was not hopeful, as no run had been made when Shrewsbury in playing round to leg sent the ball into the hands of extra-slip, while at seven Mr Dixon skied the ball to cover-point. Barnes, who joined Gunn, cut the first delivery sent him for four, after which both batsmen showed great care, while the excellence of the fielding did not tend to improve the rate of scoring. Wright displaced Mr Fox at 20, but at luncheon the figures stood at 24.

The game was resumed at a quarter to 3, and the score remained unaltered when Barnes's leg stump was bowled down. Three for 24. Flowers's stay was brief, as, before he had scored, a "shooter" from Wright clean bowled him. Then followed a couple more dismissals: Gunn, who was in an hour for 17, drove the ball into the hands of mid-off, and in quick succession Mr Daft was stumped and Attewell bowled. Seven for 30. The last three wickets gave no trouble; Scotton was bowled at 34, and at 35 Richardson and Shacklock were both dismissed, the innings ending at 20 minutes to 4

for 35. Since luncheon eight wickets had fallen in 50 minutes for 11 runs; the analyses of Martin and Wright were excellent.

Lord Harris and Mr Patterson started the Kent innings at 4 o'clock, when 52 were wanted to win. Before a run was scored the latter played the ball into the hands of point. Lord Harris made one fine drive from Flowers to the boundary, and then the figures were advanced to 11 in half an hour, at which point the Kent captain was bowled. Attewell sent back Mr Marchant without alteration in the figures. Three for 11. Mr Fox was soon afterwards bowled and A Hearne obstructed his wicket. Five down. F Hearne came next, and 20 was reached after 55 minutes' play. He then hit Flowers twice on the leg side for two each, bringing on Richardson at 25. Without addition, however, Attewell got F Hearne caught at point, and with only four wickets to fall Kent still wanted 27 to win.

Barton joined G G Hearne, who hit Attewell to leg for three, and then Sherwin missed running out Barton. This mistake proved very serious for Nottinghamshire, as Barton quickly scored 12 runs, and then a drive to the boundary by G G Hearne won Kent the match by four wickets. An enthusiastic company assembled in front of the pavilion, and Lord Harris addressed a few words to them, congratulating them on the success of the side against the powerful midland team.

29 August: SURREY v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128226.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 August, page 6)

It was thought that, with several prominent members of the Surrey eleven absent, the first match between Hampshire and Surrey would probably be pretty even. Yesterday, in pleasant weather and before a numerous company, at Southampton, the home side started batting.

After Dr Bencraft's dismissal Messrs Hoffmeister and Lacey played well, and subsequently the latter and Mr Powell made another stand. The 100 went up with only two wickets down, but then came a collapse, the last eight wickets being captured without any great difficulty.

Surrey lost Mr Trouncer at 29, but then followed vigorous batting by Brockwell and Henderson, who took the figures to 84, after which the latter and Mr Read added 105 runs for the third wicket. Henderson was batting an hour and three-quarters and hit nine fours, five threes and five twos. He gave one chance to slip when he had scored 48. The score shows that Surrey secured a great advantage.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 31 August, page 10)

Surrey gained a decisive victory at Southampton yesterday over the home eleven. The close of Thursday had left the visitors with a great advantage, as, having dismissed Hampshire for 166, they had made 206 with only three men out.

Yesterday Mr Read, owing to an injured hand, was unable to continue his unfinished innings of 66. Lockwood, however, hit with great brilliancy and took out his bat for 117, in which there were one five, 17 fours, seven threes and four twos. He was in two hours and a half.

Hampshire, who were in a minority of 287, started their second innings well, but eventually they were cheaply dismissed. Mr Lacey played vigorously and hit ten fours. The score subjoined will show that Surrey won by an innings and 142 runs.

Saturday 31 August: COUNTY CRICKET IN 1889

A repetition of the wet summer of 1888, though in a somewhat less degree, has had its effect on county cricket this season. Apart from the actual interruptions which have arisen from the rain itself, the grounds became so affected that an absolutely dry piece of turf has been a rare thing to find.

The outcry raised two seasons ago about the superiority which the bat had gained over the ball has been quite turned into ridicule. Several devices were then suggested to strengthen the attacking side, and there were not wanting those who would have made the wicket of the same dimensions as in the celebrated "Barn-door Match," when the Players defended wickets measuring 36in by 12in.

The eight leading counties (with the exception of Middlesex and Sussex) met each other. Nottinghamshire began in so brilliant a manner that at one time they appeared to be quite invincible. The feat of winning eight matches right off is of most exceptional occurrence. They reached the month of August without a check, but then their old rivals, Surrey, retaliated for the defeat they had suffered earlier at Trent-bridge. From this stage a few of their players showed some deterioration; and the selection of the eleventh place in the team has given rise to murmurings. Unquestionably the side, with an average amount of good luck, would be able to hold its own against any eleven. Figures are not always a correct index of merit, and those who run may read that, although Nottinghamshire are, from this point of view, to be bracketed with Lancashire and Surrey, they have in reality achieved such successes as to entitle them to be virtually reckoned first.

Lancashire have shone prominently. This county appears to figure particularly well in out matches. Indeed their encounters in the South reminds one of the predatory visits of northern tribes. Surrey, in particular, attracted their special attention. One great feature of their cricket, and which seems to be imparted by their captain, Mr Hornby, is the keenness of their play. Indeed, it is quite a luxury to see the manner in which the fieldsmen throw their whole heart into the game.

Surrey seemed to lack a little of the dash which characterized them last season. Mr Key batted most successfully for them, while Lohmann stands alone in the bowling. He sent down 315 more overs than any of his companions, and is creditable with no fewer than 116 wickets.

Kent reserved the greater part of their programme until August, up to which month they had won two matches and lost three. They secured five, however, out of their subsequent engagements. Although the amateurs preponderate they have some capital professionals. Martin has done well in bowling; but Wright equals him in the number of wickets taken at less cost. Lord Harris appeared in the later matches. Mr Patterson and Mr Marchant played quite up to their University form, while Mr Wilson, who did not figure in so many contests, was prominent among the batsmen, especially in the Canterbury Week.

Dr W G Grace is still the backbone of Gloucestershire cricket. He received great aid from Mr Cranston, who again played for the western county after a few years' residence in Warwickshire. His form was very consistent, and he is probably the best left-handed amateur batsmen we have. Woof's bowling also aided the county well, while Roberts was a great success.

The Middlesex team is still confined mostly to the amateurs, but they require strengthening in their bowling. The Hon A Lyttelton was not able to assist them at all. Messrs Nepean, O'Brien and Stoddart gave them invaluable assistance.

Yorkshire began with a series of minor matches, but the practice thus afforded instead of improving their play had the contrary effect. Their fielding occasionally was very indifferent. At one time it seemed possible that they would deprive Sussex of the last position among the counties.

The decline of Sussex cricket, so far as results are concerned, remains an enigma which baffles solution. They were this season still further weakened by the absence of Mr C A Smith, who has taken up his residence at the Cape. As last year they are only credited with one victory.

The question has been mooted as to whether an abandoned match, i.e., when a ball has not been bowled, should reckon as a draw. At the first blush such a concession would appear to be unfair to the counties other than the two engaged. On reflection, however, it has to be remembered that the bowling of a few overs would be quite sufficient to constitute the game a draw. As this in no way affects the play itself it would seem to be a matter well within the province of the County Cricket Council to adjudge. The averages of the eight leading counties follow: -

[Note: Player averages for 1889 can be found under:
http://www.cricketchive.co.uk/Archive/Seasons/1889_ENG.html]

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

The triumphal start of the season by Nottinghamshire quite overshadowed the other counties. Eight successive victories were gained by them, and seven out of these in a most decisive manner. They inflicted single-innings defeats on Sussex (twice), Middlesex, Surrey, Lancashire, Kent and Gloucestershire; but the contest with Yorkshire at Sheffield produced a close finish, the visitors winning by 36 runs. Then came a reverse on the occasion of the return match with Surrey at The Oval, on the August Bank Holiday. The home side had the best of the wicket and won by 134 runs. A second victory over Gloucestershire was gained by them at Clifton. Drawn matches with Middlesex, Yorkshire and Gloucestershire followed; and yesterday they suffered their second reverse, at the hands of Kent.

A general improvement in batting and bowling has been shown on last year. The return of Shrewsbury from Australia had an encouraging effect on the rest of the team; but an injured hand early in the season affected his play in a few matches. Gunn obtained the greatest number of runs and heads the batsmen with an average of 37.8, while Shrewsbury occupies second place with 35.10. Barnes, who batted well in the first six matches, then fell off, and in the remaining engagements did not play an innings of 20. He comes third, however, with Flowers (who has shown better form than last season) fourth, and Mr J A Dixon (the captain) fifth. Mr H B Daft proved the weak point in the team, and his continuing to form part of it in the later matches was a surprise to most people. He failed to score six times, and his average is only a little over three runs an innings.

Flowers was also of great value in the bowling, but in this the palm falls really to Attewell, who took 81 wickets for 10.44. Richardson did well, at the utilizing of Shacklock more than last year was fully justified by the results.

LANCASHIRE

The Lancastrians have improved their position compared with last season. Out of 14 engagements

they are creditable with 10 victories. Foremost among these will unquestionably be ranked their successes against the powerful Surrey Eleven, and these, too, in a very easy way. They also defeated Sussex, Kent and Yorkshire twice, and Gloucestershire and Middlesex once. Their losses were inflicted by Middlesex, Nottinghamshire and Gloucestershire; while their drawn match was with Nottinghamshire.

Sugg has gone from third place, which he occupied last year, into first position among the batsmen, and apart from his having an average of 32.2 he has shown very even form. A Ward comes second; he played an innings less than Sugg and scored 101 fewer runs. Briggs and Mr Eccles (the latter of whom headed the list last season) are also well to the front. Barlow, besides the capital average of over 20, has shown that dogged defence which has sorely tried the temper of many good bowlers, and, although not appealing to his credit in any statistical form, is such an invaluable boon to his side. Mr Hornby's batting comes nearly the same as last season.

The bowling was virtually divided between three players. Briggs and Mold run each other very close for first honours; the former is creditable with 88 wickets for 11.61, and the latter with 80 for 11.69. Watson also took 73 at almost a run greater cost.

SURREY

Like most other teams, Surrey batsmen have not found the slow wickets conducive to long scoring. But in spite of three defeats their season's record is one of which they have every reason to be proud. Losing the toss at Nottingham and Manchester really lost them these matches, as after the home side had completed an innings in each case the wicket became quite treacherous. At the Oval, however, when Lancashire beat them a second time, their fielding did not reach a very high standard. This was their only home defeat, as on the Oval they won every other match, beating Gloucestershire (by 250 runs), Sussex (by an innings and 84 runs), Nottinghamshire (by 134 runs), Middlesex (by an innings and 74 runs), Kent (ten wickets) and Yorkshire (two wickets). These victories would in themselves constitute a brilliant record, but, apart from these, Surrey also beat Middlesex (six wickets), Yorkshire (nine wickets), Sussex (three wickets) and Kent (seven wickets). Time robbed them of a win at Cheltenham, as when stumps were drawn they wanted only 14 for victory and had six wickets to fall. The full record consists of ten wins, three losses and one draw.

Mr Shuter has not yet proved so successful with the bat as in some former years, but Mr K J Key played quite up to his reputation, and his first position in the averages is well deserved. He and Mr W W Read are the only two batsmen who made a three-figure innings for the side. Maurice Read, Henderson and Abel have all done well.

Lohmann has easily outstripped his companions in the bowling department and has the fine average for 116 wickets of a fraction over 12. Sharpe did not prove such a valuable addition to the side as was expected, but Lockwood, another player of Nottinghamshire birth, gives every promise of a great cricketer. Beaumont and Bowley both rendered their side good service with the ball. At the beginning of the season Surrey seemed likely to lose Wood, the wicket-keeper, whose eyesight had been impaired by his trip to the Cape, but from this he almost recovered and was able to play in 12 matches.

KENT

As last year, Kent won seven matches and lost five, but the abandonment of the first game with Middlesex left them a contest short, and this season they have drawn only one, as against two in 1888. But while their record is practically the same, they fall from second place, which they then divided with Yorkshire, to fourth.

The policy of arranging their matches as late in the season as possible proved most successful, for they were thus able to get the services of their leading amateurs. The victories were against Sussex (twice in a single innings), Yorkshire (twice), Gloucestershire, Middlesex and Nottinghamshire. Gloucestershire's drawing the Canterbury fixture was bad fortune for the hop county, who only required eight runs to win and had six wickets to fall. Both their matches with Surrey and Lancashire were lost, which, with the defeat at Nottingham, made up their five reverses.

Lord Harris was able to assist the side in some of the later games. Mr Wilson heads the batting averages with 36 for ten completed innings, and Mr Marchant and Mr Patterson run a close race for second place. Wright and Martin bore the brunt of the bowling, but Mr Fox heads the list with 12.5.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The western county have gone down from fourth to fifth place. In their 14 matches they only gained one more victory than Yorkshire; but they suffered far fewer defeats.

They opened their season at Lord's early in June against Middlesex, by whom they were easily beaten; and in the same week Surrey gained another decisive victory over them at the Oval. After a drawn match with Sussex they overthrew Yorkshire at Gloucester. Their next two contests were out and home matches with Lancashire, when "honours were divided," each gaining a victory, and, curiously enough, the Northerners won at Bristol and Gloucestershire at Liverpool. Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire then beat them, after which they gained their third and last victory over Sussex at Bristol. They had two narrow escapes of being overthrown, once in the Canterbury Week, when Kent would inevitably have won had time allowed, and again at Cheltenham with Surrey, which was also drawn. In their return with Kent at Clifton, which closed their programme, the hop county gained an easy win. Their complete record shows 14 matches played, three won, seven lost and four drawn.

Dr W G Grace is again at the head of the batsmen with 36.20 in 26 innings. Mr Cranston has been of great service, as have Mr Radcliffe, Mr Croome, Mr Page, Mr Townsend and Mr Brain. Dr E M Grace took part in several matches, but did little with the bat. When put on to bowl, however, he proved effective, as 10 wickets at an average cost of 15.8 will show. Woof proved invaluable to his side, and Roberts has quite justified the confidence his county place in him. Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe were pretty successful, but costly.

MIDDLESEX

Although there is a slight improvement in the record of this county, they rank below what might reasonably be expected from a side possessing so many brilliant cricketers. These, however, were not able to turn their abilities to the best account owing to the wet season.

Mr O'Brien is at the head of the batsmen, but he only appeared in eight innings. Taking their

batting and bowling achievements together, Messrs Stoddart and Nepean may almost be bracketed. The former is credited with a few more points in the batting, and the latter has a corresponding advantage in the bowling. Mr Vernon and Mr Scott also show well in the batting department. Mr A J Webbe again captained the team. Although this gentleman has shown an improvement on last season, he has by no means recovered his form. This was disappointing, as from his capital 83 and 30 against Gloucestershire, whom Middlesex defeated early in the season at Lord's, it was hoped that his batting had returned to him.

Burton was utilized as much as ever in the bowling; he sent down 458 overs, which are 134 more than any other member of the team. His record falls far short of last year, as he only stands credited with 38 wickets at a cost of 20.28 each, against 79 wickets for 12.2.

Of their three victories, that over Yorkshire at Lord's stands out as the most brilliant. Middlesex had 280 set them in their second innings, and won by four wickets.

In addition to their want of fresh bowling talent, they greatly need a wicket-keeper. Lowles, who had shown fairly good form in the North and South Colts' match, was tried, but did not do so well as had been expected. Mr Bryant kept wicket on one occasion, but J E West (originally played for his batting and a change bowler) occupied this position on most occasions.

Besides the victory over Yorkshire mentioned, they won against Gloucestershire and Lancashire; they were twice defeated by Surrey, and once by Nottinghamshire, Lancashire and Kent. They drew with Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire and Gloucestershire, and their first match with Kent was abandoned owing to rain.

YORKSHIRE

Such a series of reverses as those which befell the great northern county have probably never been experienced by them. This is the more unaccountable from the fact that they had nearly the whole of the team who did so well last year available.

They did not begin their engagements until the latter part of June, when they met Middlesex at Lord's. Little fault could be found with their batting on this occasion, as in the double innings they accumulated 647 runs. The home county, however, did even better, and the northerners were beaten by four wickets. After this they were defeated in succession by Sussex, Gloucestershire, Surrey, Kent, Lancashire and Nottinghamshire. Thus they had lost half of their season's engagements, and had not even the scant consolation of having drawn a match. As a relief to this they managed to gain a victory over Gloucestershire in the return contest at Bradford.

It was now thought that the tide had turned; but such hopes proved quite illusory. Defeats were suffered at the hands of Lancashire and Kent, after which were drawn matches with Middlesex and Nottinghamshire. Then they managed to gain a victory over Sussex at Brighton. At one time their last contest against Surrey at the Oval seemed to be going in their favour; but the home side eventually won. Thus their 14 engagements ended – two won, ten lost and two drawn.

Hall, who was second last season, now heads the list of batsmen with 26.14. He took part in all the matches, as did also Peel, who is second with 23.19; Wade, fifth, 13.26; and Ulyett tenth, 11.15. The disappointment of the year has been the batting of Ulyett, whose chief score was 45. Lord Hawke and Wainwright did good service with the bat.

Peel's bowling stands out prominently. He bore the brunt in this department. He sent down twice as many overs as any of his companions, and his 80 wickets cost only 15.60 each. It is gratifying to find that Ulyett compensated in some degree for his indifferent batting by effective bowling, and he comes second. Whitehead did excellently for a first appearance, and is likely to prove very useful to his side.

SUSSEX

This county again comes last on the list, with a slightly worse record than in 1888. Then, as this season, they managed to secure, out of their 12 matches, one solitary victory; but instead of having nine lost and two drawn they have been defeated in ten contests, while only one was unfinished.

Mr C A Smith's stay at the Cape, of course, deprived them of a good batsman and bowler, in addition to which he was a hardworking fieldsman, and his presence in the eleven had a salutary effect on the other members of the team. As a slight set-off to this Bean was able to play for them, but he did not quite realize anticipations. Mr Newham, for the second year in succession, heads the list of batsmen, and Jesse Hide comes second, while Major (a colt who only played twice last year) is close behind them for third position.

Humphreys practically heads the bowling; yet Mr Godfrey and Major, who were not tried much, have the better average. The brothers Hide, though not quite so good as last year, again rendered their side excellent service, as did Tate and Bean.

Their victory was against Yorkshire in June at Bradford, when they defeated the northern shire by four wickets. Seven of their ten defeats were of the most decisive character. Nottinghamshire and Kent beat them twice with an innings to spare, and Surrey, Gloucestershire and Lancashire once; their other reverses were at the hands of Lancashire, Surrey and Yorkshire, while their drawn game was with Gloucestershire.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The following table gives the relative positions of the counties, reckoning the number of victories, and half for a drawn game: -

	Total				
	Matches	Won	Lost	Drawn	Average
Nottinghamshire	14	9	2	3	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lancashire	14	10	3	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Surrey	14	10	3	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Kent	13	7	5	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Gloucestershire	14	3	7	4	5
Middlesex	11	3	5	3	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Yorkshire	14	2	10	2	3
Sussex	12	1	10	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

2 September: YORKSHIRE v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3509.html)

Day 1 (report from Thursday 3 September, page 5)

Yesterday the second match of the Scarborough festival began under favourable conditions. The weather was fine and seasonable, and spectators assembled in large numbers. Usually the Marylebone Club have sent down several of their ground staff to assist the amateurs, but with such a powerful team of Gentlemen available the services of the professionals were not required. Lord Hawke's injured hand prevented his assisting the county, whose representatives included Mr R W Frank and Mr E T B Simpson; the latter, it may be remembered, played for Oxford last year at Lord's. There were 12 players a side.

Successful in the toss, Dr Grace and Mr Webbe began the Marylebone batting at 12.25; Harrison and Peel shared the attack. Dr Grace made the majority of the runs, and Mr Webbe, who had cut Harrison for four, was only creditable with six out of 25 when he was bowled. Mr Stoddart came in, but with 11 runs added he lost the company of Dr Grace, who was taken at extra slip. Mr Stoddart's stay was not particularly profitable, as at 38 a catch at cover-point disposed of him, and thus three wickets were down.

Messrs Key and O'Brien were now associated. Shortly before half-past 1 the 50 was announced, but an addition of nine saw the departure of Mr O'Brien, who played on, while at 61 Mr Key was given out leg before to Wainwright, the latter having displaced Peel at 53. Five for 61. Messrs Hadow and Nepean remained together some little time, during which Harrison gave way to Whitehead, who quickly had an easy return catch from Mr Hadow. Mr Thornton joined Mr Nepean, and at luncheon the score had reached 82.

On resuming at 3 o'clock Peel and Whitehead conducted the bowling. Mr Thornton made one or two good hits before, at 95, he was bowled. With Mr Vernon in the 100 went up at 20 minutes past 3, and, as the new batsman hit freely, Wade was tried at 117. Mr Nepean had been playing remarkably well, when, at 121, he lost his wicket through venturesomeness, and Mr Paravicini was speedily out in the same way. Mr Vernon still batted vigorously, making 12 in an over from Wade, but at 142 a catch at extra-slip disposed of him. Messrs Woods and Philipson made a spirited stand for the last wicket. In rapid style they put on 33 runs, and the total of the innings, which ended at ten minutes past 4, was 175.

Yorkshire's beginning was not hopeful, for 15 runs cost them three wickets – Lee run out, and Mr Frank and Ulyett bowled. Hall and Peel considerably improved matters, while, after the stumping of the former, Wainwright stayed with Peel until the drawing of stumps.

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

In charming weather and before a numerous company the Marylebone and Yorkshire match was continued yesterday. The second day's play furnished cricket of a brilliant nature; both in batting and bowling there were fine achievements, the former department showing a great improvement as compared to Monday, a fact largely due to the wicket having become fast. On the previous evening the score was as follows: - Marylebone, 175; Yorkshire, 81 for four.

Peel and Wainwright, the not-outs, were confronted by Messrs Woods and Stoddart. In the course of a few overs the former bowled three batsmen – Peel, Wainwright and Mr Simpson – and seven wickets were down for 94. Wade and Moorhouse stayed together a little while, and the 100 was reached at 12.40. Ten runs later Mr Nepean superseded Mr Stoddart. He at once got Moorhouse stumped, while after an addition of 16 the last three wickets fell at the same total – Whitehead stumped, Wade played on and Harrison caught on the off-side. Total 128; time 1.15.

With an advantage of 47 Marylebone went in a second time. Messrs Stoddart and Webbe began the batting to the attacks of Peel and Harrison. Thirteen runs were scored, and then the latter gave way to Wade, in whose first over Mr Webbe was bowled. After luncheon Mr Key joined Mr Stoddart, Peel and Wade still sharing the bowling. Mr Stoddart was at once dismissed and Mr O'Brien came in. He hit vigorously, but was let off when he has scored ten by Mr Simpson in the long-field. Runs came at a fast rate, but after the bowling had been taken up by Whitehead and Wainwright, Mr Key played on.

With Mr Nepean in Mr O'Brien hit with greater brilliancy than ever. He made ten in an over from Wainwright. Harrison resumed at 67 only to give way to Peel at 81; then in a couple of overs from the latter Mr O'Brien made two sixes and four fours – namely, 28. Ulyett was tried, and Mr Nepean should have been caught at third man by Mr Frank. At length, at 144, when there seemed every probability of Mr O'Brien making his 100, he played on. He had been in an hour and a half, and his figures included two sixes (hits out of the ground), a five, 14 fours, a three, seven twos and singles. He was loudly applauded on his retirement. Mr O'Brien seems to have a keen appreciation for the Yorkshire bowlers; it was at Lord's this year against them that he made his 90 and 100 not out. Four for 144.

Mr Nepean and Mr Hadow both played well, but the other batsmen were rapidly disposed of, and the last wicket fell for 215. Whitehead had bowled well, as had Mr Woods earlier in the day. With the completion of the Marylebone innings stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 5 September, page 5)

The second match of the Festival furnished yesterday an excellent finish. When play ceased on Tuesday evening there was a probability of this, as, with the wicket in good order, it was thought that the Yorkshiremen would play well against the attack of the Marylebone Club. The score appended will show that the Marylebone Club won by 35 runs.

2 September: SURREY v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128226.html)

Day 1 (report from Thursday 3 September, page 5)

There was some excellent cricket at Kennington Oval yesterday when the return match between Surrey and Hampshire began in fine weather and before a good muster of spectators. On a true wicket Hampshire took first innings, Dr Russell Bencraft and Mr Hoffmeister facing the bowling of Beaumont and Harris.

The visitors started badly: Dr Bencraft was bowled at six and Mr Lacey arrived to see the dismissal of Mr Hoffmeister – caught at wicket – while at 17 Mr Powell was run out and Mr Delme-Radcliffe fell a victim to the wicket-keeper. Four for 17. Baldwin now aided Mr Lacey, and these batsmen showed excellent form. They rapidly altered the state of affairs, and although the bowling was changed several times, 72 runs were added. Mr Lacey played remarkably well for his 47. He was in rather more than an hour and hit six fours, two threes and four twos. Of the remaining batsmen Mr Gerds alone met with any considerable success, and the last five wickets averaged less than seven runs each. Brockwell and Sharpe proved most effective of the bowlers.

Surrey went in after luncheon, Mr Trouncer and Watts being the early batsmen, while Roberts and Young shared the attack. Watts hit much more vigorously than his companion, and although Baldwin and Mr Steele were tried, an hour yielded 48 runs. The partnership had lasted 50 minutes when Watts was taken at cover-point. He had scored 50 out of 76 by eight fours, two threes, two twos and singles. Henderson played on; but with Brockwell in the Hampshire total was soon passed. Mr Trouncer, after batting an hour and a half, was well caught at slip for a capital 50, in which there were four fours, five threes and two twos. Three for 132.

Brockwell was taken at slip at 133, and at 151 the fifth wicket fell, Lockwood being bowled. After the disposal of Harris, Mr Morgan and Wood scored with great rapidity, and a cheer greeted the second hundred. Runs continued to come at a fast rate; but when within a single of his 50 Wood was run out. He hit four fours, four threes and six twos. Sharpe joined Mr Morgan . . .

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

With most of their leading players absent, Surrey were yet able to place an eleven in the field more than a match for Hampshire. Rain delayed the cricket at the Oval yesterday for a couple of hours, and when a start was made at 1 o'clock the turf had become very soft. On Monday evening Hampshire had scored 121 and Surrey, with three wickets in hand, were 264.

Mr Morgan and Sharpe, the not-outs, were faced by Baldwin and Roberts. Eight runs were added and Mr Morgan was disposed of, while Baldwin quickly afterwards sent back Sharpe and Bowley, and the innings realized 281.

In a minority of 160 Hampshire went in a second time. Sharpe and Brockwell shared the bowling. Dr Bencraft and Mr Hoffmeister were both out at 4, but Mr Lacey and Mr Powell raised the figures to 18 before luncheon. On play being resumed Messrs Powell and Radcliffe were disposed of without addition, the latter for a second time failing to score. Mr Lacey again batted well and with Baldwin slightly improved the state of affairs. Brockwell at 25 gave way to Beaumont. At 38 a

catch at third man disposed of Baldwin, and Young arrived. The figures travelled steadily, and after Henderson had retired through an injury received in fielding at point the 50 was reached at 20 minutes past three. Bowley now went on for Beaumont, and he speedily got Young caught at cover-point. Six for 59.

Immediately on the arrival of Mr Gerds, a catch at wicket sent back Mr Lacey, who had made 30 out of 60 in an hour and a quarter by capital cricket. Seven down. Mr Steele came and Harris relieved Sharpe. The new bowler got Mr Gerds caught at point at 88, and Smith joined Mr Steele, who had made several very good hits. He was speedily run out, making room for Roberts, whose hitting soon sent up the 100. Another change in the bowling was tried, Watts taking Bowley's place at the gasometer end. The alteration was successful, as the last ball of the over sent Roberts's leg stump out of the ground. From the score subjoined it will be seen that Surrey won by an innings and 58 runs.

5 September: NORTH v SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3510.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 September, page 8)

The most important match of the Scarborough Festival opened yesterday under favourable conditions; the weather was pleasant and the company larger than on any previous day, while the wicket was fast and true. Two powerful elevens had been got together under the respective captaincy of Lord Hawke and Mr C I Thornton.

The home side, successful in the toss, took first innings, and at 12.25 Flowers and Hall were deputed to open the batting. Lohmann and Mr Woods shared the bowling. Flowers cut the first ball of the match for four, a stroke he promptly supplemented with several other boundary hits. In half an hour the figures reached 40, and then Wright superseded Mr Woods, while, as the fast rate of scoring remained unchecked, Lohmann gave way to Mr Nepean. These variations apparently little concerned the batsmen. Flowers did most of the hitting, and a drive by him for four completed his 50 after as many minutes' play. Mr Woods displaced Mr Nepean at 70, and at 83 Wright went on at the other end. Still Flowers obtained runs rapidly, and loud cheers greeted the appearance of 100 at a quarter to 2. Three runs later, however, the first wicket fell, a catch at cover-point disposing of Flowers. He had been in an hour and a half, and his brilliant innings of 75 comprised 11 fours, a three, seven twos and singles.

Barnes came in. After luncheon the figures again went up at a very rapid rate. Lohmann and Mr Woods were soon relieved by Mr Stoddart and Wright, while in further alterations of the attack Abel was engaged. Dr Grace went on at 179, but Barnes completed his 50 and, after sending a ball dangerously close to Lohmann at slip, he elicited loud applause by hitting Dr Grace out of the ground on the leg side. This item brought him six runs. Mr Stoddart and Lohmann were tried again. From the latter bowler Barnes was at length caught at third man. He was in a couple of hours and made a six, six fours, six threes and eight twos. For the second wicket 125 runs had been scored.

Two runs later Hall and Peel were both bowled. The former was in three hours and a half and hit six fours, two threes and 16 twos. The first two wickets had averaged 114 runs each, but four men were out for 230. Gunn and Chatterton raised the score slowly to 278, when Wright dismissed the latter, and at 281 Gunn was bowled. Lord Hawke and Ulyett then became partners and played out time . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 September, page 11)

Another excellent day's cricket was witnessed at Scarborough yesterday, and the very large company present took a lively interest in the game. Charming weather favoured the eighth day of the festival. On Thursday evening the North had secured a great advantage, as, having gone in first, they still had four wickets in hand and were credited with 292 runs.

Lord Hawke and Ulyett, the not-outs, resumed the batting at a quarter past 12, while Wright and Mr Woods were the bowlers. The former was quickly displaced by Lohmann, but the third 100 was reached at 12.20, after which Lord Hawke scored at a very fast rate. In an over from Lohmann he made 18 (four fours and a two), and, after having an escape at the hands of Abel, fielding behind the

bowler, he again hit vigorously. At length, at 348, a good catch at extra slip dismissed the Yorkshire captain, who had assisted to add 67 for the seventh wicket.

Attewell joined Ulyett, who soon drove a ball from Lohmann out of the ground for six, causing Wright to go on at 356. Then the innings rapidly ended. Mr Woods got Attewell caught at wicket and had an easy return from Shacklock, while Hunter was last to leave – run out. Ulyett remained unconquered for a capital 39. Lohmann's bowling had been very expensive.

Dr Grace and Mr Thornton opened the South innings at 1.25 to the bowling of Attewell and Shacklock. The start was disastrous. With only six runs scored a brilliant catch at slip disposed of Dr Grace, and four runs later Mr Thornton was secured by Gunn running from third man. Mr O'Brien was beaten by a ball from Attewell, and three good wickets were lost for 20. Mr Nepean joined Mr Stoddart, and at the interval the score stood at 29.

On resuming shortly after 3 o'clock Shacklock and Attewell still shared the bowling. Mr Stoddart made several fine boundary hits, but Mr Nepean played with extreme care. Fifty was reached at 3.25, and then Mr Nepean, who had been in half an hour for three runs, was bowled. Abel was Mr Stoddart's next partner. The latter continued to bat with great spirit, and Peel soon superseded Shacklock. Mr Stoddart drove Attewell out of the ground for six and completed his 50 within a few minutes of 4 o'clock. At 84 Peel gave way to Flowers, but subsequently he was tried at the other end. However, the 100 went up at 4.20, and then the attack underwent a further change, Peel handing the ball to Ulyett. At length, at 117, Mr Stoddart was bowled for a brilliant innings, which included a six, ten fours, four threes, three twos and singles; he was batting rather less than an hour and three-quarters. Five down.

When Lohmann joined Abel, Attewell and Shacklock resumed bowling. Lohmann soon fell to a catch at extra slip, but Mr Hadow, after giving a chance in that position, hit hard. He rapidly scored four fours, three of which he made in one over. He then sent the ball into the hands of extra mid-off. Abel left at 176, and after a little vigorous play by Messrs Philipson and Woods, the venture came to an end for 197. At this stage of the game stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 9 September, page 6)

There had been many excellent achievements at this season's festival previous to Saturday, but it was left to the last day to furnish a performance which eclipsed everything else. Dr Grace and Abel were the heroes of the day. On Friday evening each side had completed an innings, and the South at this stage were 163 runs behind. On Saturday the visitors followed on, Dr Grace facing the attacks of Shacklock and Attewell.

From the outset the score rose rapidly, a fact for which the Gloucestershire captain was mainly responsible. Peel and Ulyett soon took up the bowling, but 50 was reached at 1 o'clock. Other changes were tried, which however, in no way affected the rate of run-getting. Cheers greeted the completion of Dr Grace's 50, and at 1.40 there was more applause for the 100. Bowling variations were frequent and, among others, Hall and Chatterton went on. Yet at luncheon time the figures were 123 with no wicket down. Dr Grace had then scored 75 and Abel 44.

When play was resumed shortly after 3 o'clock, Peel and Attewell were the bowlers. Dr Grace played with great care as he approached his 100, and Abel, who was hitting with freedom, steadily gained on him. The individual scores were at times "92 all" and "96 all," after which Dr Grace

completed his 100, the 200 at the same time appearing. Having secured the triple figure innings, the champion hit vigorously, but at length, with the total at 226, the partnership came to an end through Abel playing on. The batsmen had been together three hours and three-quarters, so that runs had averaged about 60 an hour. Abel hit one five (four by an overthrow), eight fours, five threes and 12 twos; throughout he played in excellent style. When he had scored 55 he gave a difficult chance to Ulyett at point, and at 76 a hard return to Attewell was not accepted. The score of 226 for the first wicket is not the longest on record; this stands to the credit of Dr Grace and Mr Cooper, who scored 283 at the Oval many years ago in the match between Gentlemen v Players of the South, while at Lord's. In the Marylebone Centenary match, Shrewsbury and Mr Stoddart obtained 266 for England v Marylebone.

Mr Stoddart's stay was brief on this occasion, as having made a single he obstructed his wicket, and Mr Nepean joined Dr Grace, who still scored rapidly. He increased his total to 154, but, when every one hoped to see him carry his bat out, a catch at short-leg dismissed him in the last over of the day. Dr Grace had been in four hours and a half, and his 154 runs were obtained with all his old brilliancy. When he had scored 22 he made one dangerous hit in the slips, which narrowly escaped Chatterton, and at 139 he gave a chance to the wicket-keeper. These were the only blemishes in the lengthy innings. His chief hits were 16 fours, five threes and 20 twos. The game was left unfinished, the South with seven wickets in hand being 115 runs ahead.

6 September: CHESHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128504.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 7 September, page 11)

There was some heavy scoring at Stockport yesterday in the match between these counties. The chief features of the day were the fine innings played by Sugg and Barlow, of Lancashire, who each made a three-figure total – viz., Sugg 115 and Barlow 106. These players added 200 runs for the second wicket. The Lancashire score ultimately reached 345.

Day 2 (report from Monday 9 September, page 6)

The heavy score made by Lancashire on the opening day of this match at Stockport was followed on Saturday by excellent bowling by several members of the visiting eleven. Ultimately Lancashire won by an innings and 179 runs.

9 September: L HALL'S XI v R PILLING'S XI

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3511.html)

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

This is practically a match between Yorkshire and Surrey (Hall's eleven) and Lancashire and Nottinghamshire (Pilling's eleven). It opened yesterday in fine weather at Holbeck, Leeds. Great interest was taken in the game, and during the afternoon about 4,000 people were present.

Winning the toss, Pilling decided to go in first on a slow wicket. Barlow and Barnes, the early batsmen, who were faced by Lohmann and Beaumont, made a capital start. Barnes was chiefly responsible for the runs, which came at the rate of one a minute until 51 were recorded, when Wainwright, who, with Ulyett, had taken up the bowling, dismissed Barlow. Sugg's stay was brief, while at 57 Barnes was also out for an excellent 31. Briggs and Ward were then partners. Although of short duration, Briggs's innings furnished some lively cricket. He made three fours, two twos and a single, and was then given out leg before. Ward and Scotton offered a spirited resistance for the fifth wicket. Peel displaced Wainwright and Lohmann relieved Ulyett, yet at luncheon the batsmen were still together, the score having reached 125.

Subsequently Beaumont and Peel had charge of the attack. With only three runs added the latter disposed of Scotton, while Mr Crosfield scored a single and then returned the ball. Ward and Watson were caught at wicket, and Pilling left at 141. An unexpected stand was made by Wright and Mold for the last wicket. The pair added 41 in good style before the bowling of Wright closed the innings.

Hall's team from the outset met with a series of disasters. Mold and Briggs took every advantage of the assistance afforded by the treacherous wicket, and in a little over an hour they got their opponents out, Lee alone making double figures. The bowling analysis of Briggs was especially noteworthy.

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

The match between these powerful sides, at Holbeck, Leeds, was brought to a close yesterday. On the opening day Pilling's eleven secured a great advantage, and when the game was resumed yesterday, Hall's side had to follow on against a majority of 137.

In pleasant weather Hall and Chatterton started batting shortly after 12 o'clock, while Briggs and Mold, who had bowled unchanged in the first innings, shared the attack. With the score at 13 Chatterton cut the ball into the hands of point; but Lee and Hall were partners for a considerable time. Thirty-two were added before the second wicket fell, Hall being then clean bowled. When Abel arrived the "50" was speedily reached. Soon afterwards, however, he fell to the dexterity of the wicket-keeper, while in quick succession Lee was caught at slip, Ulyett was bowled for the second time without scoring, and Lohmann returned the ball. Six for 65.

Wainwright and Peel improved matters. At 87 Wright and Watson took up the attack, yet at the luncheon interval the batsmen were still together and the figures were 90. On resuming play the partnership soon ended, and at 3.35 the last wicket fell, victory resting with Pilling's eleven by an innings and nine runs. Mold's bowling was particularly effective.

12 September: SOUTH v NORTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3512.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 13 September, page 9)

Charming weather ushered in the festival at Hastings yesterday. The opening match was between North and South. Dr W G Grace commanded a powerful southern eleven, while the northern players, who hailed from Lancashire, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire, were captained by Ulyett.

Play began at 12.25, when the visitors took first innings on a wicket which had not quite recovered from the storm of ten days ago . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 14 September, page 11)

An improved wicket led to much better batting at Hastings yesterday than was the case on the opening day. Fine weather, too, again favoured the festival, and there was another large attendance of spectators. The state of the score overnight showed an advantage to the home side, as with five wickets in hand they were then within 24 of their rivals' total.

Messrs Stoddart and Nepean were the not-outs, and shortly after 12 o'clock they were faced by Attewell and Peel. The figures were unaltered when the former sent back Mr Stoddart, while Mr Radcliffe came in to see Mr Nepean play on, the seventh wicket falling at 78. A good catch in the long field disposed of Mr Radcliffe at 84, while Attewell quickly sent back Mr Page. With Lohmann and Beaumont together the visitors' score was passed; but the venture soon afterwards terminated, and seven was the difference between the innings.

Hall and Ward started the second attempt of the North against the bowling of Beaumont and Lohmann. The deficiency had only been made up when Hall was run out. Lee then joined Ward. After the new comer had been let off by Dr Grace at point he hit brilliantly, and 43 runs were registered in 30 minutes. Messrs Nepean and Stoddart took up the attack, and subsequently Lohmann was tried again. Yet at luncheon the figures stood at 66, Lee being not-out 38.

After an hour's interval the game was resumed. Without addition Lohmann bowled Ward. Sugg and Lee made another stand, both batting brilliantly. The 100 was reached at half-past 3, but seven runs later Lee was at length bowled for a finely-hit 60, in which there were eight fours, a three and seven twos. He was in an hour and a quarter. Three down. Sugg then fell a victim to the wicket-keeper, and Peel and Barnes became partners. Mr Stoddart took the ball at 120, an alteration that proved remarkably effective. His first delivery disposed of Barnes, while after Peel had been caught at mid-off he also bowled Ulyett. Seven for 143.

Gunn, who was suffering from a bruised hand, a mishap that accounted for his going in so late, and Attewell gave the Southerners a lot of trouble. Beaumont resumed, and Mr Nepean was tried at 196, but in spite of these changes the 200 was telegraphed at five minutes past 5. Having greatly assisted to add 62 for the eighth wicket Attewell left. Richardson hit vigorously for a few overs, but at 237 he was caught at slip, while Sherwin was brilliantly taken near the boundary. Gunn carried out his bat for a capital 57. He was in an hour and 40 minutes, and contributed seven fours, a three and eight twos. The South were left with 234 to get to win.

Day 3 (report from Monday 16 September, page 8)

The task set the South of scoring 234 runs in the last innings left the probability of an interesting day's cricket on Saturday, and with the weather again favourable a large company visited the Hastings Recreation Ground. Dr W G Grace and Abel began the home batting shortly after 12 o'clock, and the attack was shared by Attewell and Peel.

A misjudged run might have lost either batsman his wicket, but the ball was overthrown to the boundary. Subsequently the figures advanced slowly to 13, when a good ball from Attewell struck Dr Grace's off stump. Mr Stoddart, who came in, and Abel batted well for a time, and there seemed some prospect of a stand. Rapidly the score reached 34 when a change of bowling was adopted, Peel being displaced by Richardson. This alteration at once proved effective, a good return catch sending back Abel, and at 36 a "bailer" disposed of Mr Stoddart. Three down.

Messrs Radcliffe and Key were now together, but their partnership was only of brief duration. With eight runs added Attewell bowled Mr Radcliffe's off stump out of the ground, and after 50 had been signalled, a "yorker" from him dismissed Mr O'Brien. Messrs Key and Newham played very carefully. They could make little headway against the excellent bowling, as may be gleaned from the fact that 14 overs were sent down for four runs. Thirty-five minutes were occupied in making ten. Peel received the ball from Attewell at 62, and from his first delivery Mr Newham was stumped.

After luncheon Mr Key obstructed his wicket, and seven batsmen were out for 74. Mr Nepean left at 81, at which total Lohmann and Mr Page were also dismissed, and the match ended in a victory for the North by 152 runs. The batting was certainly disappointing, but the wicket gave the bowlers great assistance.

16 September: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3513.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 17 September, page 8)

In fine weather and before a numerous company of spectators, this match, which forms the second part of the Festival, began yesterday at Hastings. The wicket was still in favour of the bowlers. Ulyett won the toss, and at 20 minutes past 12 sent in Gunn and Abel. The bowling was intrusted to Messrs Nepean and Pigg.

When 15 runs had been scored, Gunn, in attempting a second run, was dismissed, and Lee joined Abel. Each batsman made a drive for four; but at 33 Lee was finely caught at long-off, while a catch at point quickly disposed of Barnes. Three for 40. Ward and Abel were now partners, and the first hour's batting produced 50. Five runs later a change in the attack was tried, Mr Nepean giving way to Mr Stoddart. In the latter's first over Abel played under a ball which slip secured. Peel came in, and at the interval the total had reached 74 for four wickets.

Afterwards Peel hit well for a few overs, but at 90 he was clean bowled. Ulyett arrived, and the 100 was completed at half-past 3. A splendid catch at long-off got rid of the last comer. Attewell hit with freedom, and his partnership with Ward caused several changes in the bowling. The latter, who had been batting two hours for 50, was at length caught by third man; his chief hits were three fours, four threes and two twos. Attewell was the eighth to leave, at 154; among his figures were three fours, two threes and three twos. Lohmann was well caught at mid-off, and at half-past 4 the innings closed for a total of 179.

The Gentlemen began batting in an indifferent light. Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe were bowled by Lohmann, and Messrs Key and Stoddart played out time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 September, page 8)

There was again a large number of visitors to the Hastings cricket ground to witness the continuation of the Gentlemen v Players match, and the weather proved most enjoyable. At the drawing of stumps on Monday evening the Players had completed an innings for 179 and two of their opponents' wickets were down for 36.

Messrs Key and Stoddart (the not-outs with 9 and 3) resumed batting at noon to the attacks of Attewell and Lohmann. In the Nottinghamshire bowler's opening over Mr Stoddart was caught by the wicket-keeper. Mr Newham arrived, and in conjunction with Mr Key infused some life into the game. The Surrey batsman hit most vigorously, and the bowling underwent a two-fold change, Richardson and Peel going on. A lucky four by Mr Newham caused the 100 to be reached at ten minutes past 1 and at the same time prevented the follow on. A catch at mid-off from a skier then dismissed Mr Key, whose hits were eight fours, one three, one two and only four singles. His partnership with Mr Newham had yielded 64 runs. Mr Read was soon bowled; and at length, after being in 75 minutes for a carefully-compiled score of 24, Mr Newham played the ball on. Six for 117. Mr Nepean did little before being caught at mid-off, and at the interval Messrs Pigg and M'Cormick were together with the total at 134 for seven wickets.

Afterwards the attack was intrusted to Lohmann and Attewell. From the bowling of the latter eight

runs were made by Mr M'Cormick by an on-drive and leg hit in an over. Lohmann crossed to the other end and Richardson was put on. With the total at 151 Mr M'Cormick was clean bowled. Mr Page joined Mr Pigg, and at ten minutes to four the Players' score was reached. Runs were then obtained rapidly and, the total having been advanced to 184, the former was clean bowled. Mr Philipson, a rather good batsman to bring up the rear, went to the assistance of Mr Pigg. Sixteen runs (including three fours by the new comer) were recorded in ten minutes, these causing the 200 to be completed. Further changes in the attack were adopted, and it was not until 226 were reached that Mr Pigg was stumped, the last wicket having put on 42. The turf was a little fiery and extras were plentiful.

The Players, with 47 in arrear, went in a second time. Abel was secured by point at 10, Lee caught at mid-off for an additional 10, and at 30 Barnes also played the ball into point's hands. Three down. Gunn and Ward were now partners and, although the light grew rather dim, they more than doubled the total without further mishap.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 19 September, page 5)

The interest in the second match of the festival was sustained until the last ball was bowled. At the drawing of stumps on Tuesday evening each side had completed an innings, and the Players, in a minority of 47, had lost three wickets for 62. Delightful weather was again experienced yesterday, and there was a large number of spectators on the Hastings ground.

At 11.40 Gunn and Ward (the not-outs with 24 and 18) continued their batting. A smart run-out dismissed the former at 82. He had hit freely for 40, which comprised three fours, one three, six twos &c. A catch at point quickly dismissed Peel, and a bailer from Mr Stoddart sent Ulyett back scoreless. Ward, who had batted well for his 26, was eventually caught at mid-on. Attewell and Richardson caused the "100" to be reached; but soon afterwards both were got rid of. Nine for 106. Lohmann hit with determination, but was at last clean bowled, the innings being over at a quarter to 1 for 119.

The Gentlemen had the easy task of 73 set them for victory. Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe were opposed by Attewell and Lohmann. The latter was hit to leg for two and driven to the boundary by the Gloucestershire captain, who was then brilliantly caught by Gunn in the long-field, the ball being just held by the left hand high up, and only a fieldsman of this player's height could have secured it. Two other misfortunes speedily befell the Gentlemen. Without adding to the score Mr Radcliffe was taken at wicket and Mr Stoddart at slip. Three for six. Messrs Key and Newham were together for a few overs; but at 19 the latter's leg stump was shot out of the ground, and four runs subsequently Mr Key skied the ball to point. Messrs Read and Nepean were associated until the interval, when the total stood at 25 for five wickets.

On resuming Mr Read escaped being caught at mid-off, otherwise the fielding was excellent. After some quiet play Mr Nepean returned the ball at 32; but Mr M'Cormick hit vigorously, and with a drive for four caused "40" to be signalled. Peel superseded Lohmann at 56. Five runs later Mr Read was also out to a high return catch. When Mr Philipson joined Mr M'Cormick a dozen runs were still required, with three wickets to fall. Two of these were captured for an addition four only. Mr Page then assisted Mr M'Cormick and, amidst great excitement, the latter with a leg-hit for four won the match for the Gentlemen by a wicket. The executive at Hastings are to be congratulated on the great success of the festival.

Monday 18 November, page 7: CRICKET

The following are the rules which the Derbyshire Cricket Committee intend to propose to the Cricket Council with respect to the question of the importation of players: -

1. So long as any county which is affiliated to the County Cricket Council requires the services of any of its duly qualified players, such players shall not be allowed to play for any other county.
2. In the event of any dispute arising between any county and any of its players as to the construction or enforcement of the above rule, such dispute must be referred to the committee of the County Cricket Council, and their decision shall be final.
3. These rules shall take effect as from the 1st day of March, 1890, and shall not be retrospective.

The challenges sent to Kent and Sussex have been declined, and Middlesex and Gloucestershire have also expressed their inability to arrange matches with Derbyshire next season. The only counties at present arranged with are Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, Surrey and Leicestershire. The committee have not, as reported, decided to support the proposal of Warwickshire to give power to the Cricket Council to decide the status of counties.

At Lord's, yesterday, this Council held its annual meeting. Present –Lord Harris (Kent), chairman; Hon Ivo Bligh (Kent), hon. secretary; Mr W H C Oates and Mr E Brown (Nottinghamshire), Mr A J Webbe (Middlesex), Dr W G Grace (Gloucestershire), Mr J Shuter and Mr C W Alcock (Surrey), Mr M Turner (Sussex), Mr M J Ellison and Mr J B Wostinholm (Yorkshire), Mr S H Swire (Lancashire), Mr C D Buxton (Essex), Mr A Wilson and Mr J Smith (Derbyshire), Mr H W Bainbridge and Mr W Ansell (Warwickshire), Mr A H Heath (Staffordshire), Mr C Pigg (Hertfordshire), Mr Murray Anderton (Somersetshire), Mr A W Jarvis (Norfolk), Mr R H Mallett (Durham), Mr Thompson (Northumberland), Mr H Thornber (Cheshire), Mr J Bonner (Leicestershire), Mr T Slaney (Staffordshire) and Dr R Bencraft (Hampshire).

After the minutes and balance-sheet had been passed, Lord Harris called upon the Hon Ivo Bligh to read the following letter addressed to him as hon. secretary of the County Cricket Council by Mr Boyle, the manager of the Australian team intending to visit England next summer, dated Melbourne, September 20, 1889: -

“Dear Sir, - In June last I wrote you unofficially, not knowing you were secretary of the above, stating that a team of Australian cricketers were about to visit England in 1890. By the same mail I wrote Lord Harris to the same effect, and also to Mr C W Alcock, asking the latter if he would, as usual, arrange our programme of matches at the annual meeting of secretaries.

“From cablegrams that have appeared in the Press here it would seem that I have been discourteous to the Council in not asking their co-operation with regard to the visit of the Australians. Such, I need not say, was never intended or even thought of. If I have unintentionally been so, I beg to apologize to your body for so doing, and to ask if they will kindly consent to the enclosed list of fixtures being arranged by Mr C W Alcock at the annual meeting of secretaries; of course, dates and places to be arranged to suit the Council. Trusting the coming season will be a favourable one and productive of good cricket.

“I am yours truly,
“H F BOYLE (Manager Australian Eleven, 1890).”

Lord Harris said that towards the end of the summer, when he noticed the telegram in the daily Press stating that the Australians were coming over next year, he at once wrote to Mr Boyle suggesting that it would have been courteous to have had the consent of the Council. Towards the end of the season Lancashire telegraphed to him asking him to call a special meeting for discussion of the subject. His lordship replied that it was necessary for Lancashire to have four other counties to co-operate, and although, as chairman, he had the power to call a meeting, he did not think it desirable after an interview he had had with Mr Alcock to exercise that power.

Mr C W Alcock said that when he heard from Mr Boyle he sent round a circular letter asking the counties their opinion on the matter. He hoped he had not been discourteous in working on the same lines as in previous years.

Mr S H Swire (Lancashire) said that when his committee heard the news of the proposed visit they passed the following resolution: - “That, in the interests of county cricket, it is not desirable to encourage a visit from the Australian cricketers next season, and that a meeting of the cricket council should be called immediately to decide the matter.”

The county matches always suffered from the visits of the Australians; but when Lancashire heard from Mr Alcock they let the matter drop. He now wished to propose: - "That the County Cricket Council will be glad to welcome a team of Australian cricketers in 1890, and will use its best endeavours to secure for them a representative list of matches."

The motion was seconded by Mr J Shuter (Surrey) and carried unanimously.

Mr A J Webbe (Middlesex) brought forward the next resolution, and in doing so said that commencing cricket on the second day at 11 o'clock had proved irksome. It was as follows: - "That all three-day matches shall begin at 12 o'clock the first day and 11.30 on following days." It was seconded by Mr Ellison (Yorkshire).

After some discussion, in which Dr W G Grace supported the motion, Mr Smith (Derbyshire) proposed an amendment that the words "not later than" be inserted before 11.30. Mr M Turner (Sussex) seconded the amendment, which was adopted.

Mr W H C Oates (Nottinghamshire) moved that "No alteration shall be made in the laws of county qualification unless the motion is carried by a majority of two-thirds of those present and voting."

Mr J Shuter, in seconding it, said that it was a most important matter. This produced a long discussion; but the resolution was ultimately adopted, with the proviso that the motion should not affect the other propositions on the agenda paper.

Lord Harris next proposed: - "That it will be convenient if, in future, cricket teams proposing to arrange a tour in England first obtain the consent of the county cricket clubs." He said that the remarks on Mr Boyle's letter had shown to a large extent the feeling of the meeting. The Australians entirely depended on the courtesy of the counties for the success of their tour. If they withdrew their recognition the visit must be a failure.

He took this opportunity to dispose of a misconception that had arisen as to his views about the number of years that should elapse between the visits. It depended much on public opinion whether it should be two years or five. A speech of his at the close of the last tour had been misconstrued into the idea that he thought they should come every two years. This was far from being his view. They should certainly not come unless they could secure a good team, for they took up so much time out of the cricket season. He thought it was no discourteous act in asking them before they landed on our shores to consult the counties.

This was seconded by Mr S H Swire (Lancashire).

Dr W G Grace, in supporting the motion, said that Lord Harris rather underrated the last Australian side. They were not such a bad team, and it should be remembered that they beat us in one representative match. It was impossible from one cause or another to get together precisely the best team.

Mr A J Webbe also spoke in favour of the motion, which was carried.

Mr J Smith (Derbyshire) rose to move proposals relating to the question of imported players. The first of these was that "So long as any county which is affiliated to the County Cricket Council requires the services of any of its duly qualified players, such players shall not be allowed to play for any other county." He suggested that county cricket was simply degenerating into club and

ground matches. Many years ago, when the residential qualification was introduced, the reasons urged were the hardships attending the inability of many men to play for the county of their birth. It was never intended that when a professional had been brought out by a small county he should be bought up by one of the big shires. This, he assured the meeting, had actually occurred.

Dr W G Grace said that he entirely agreed with the principle of Derbyshire's proposal, which he had great pleasure in seconding.

Lord Harris thought he must take the liberty of warning them against passing the resolution. Were they, he asked, actually going to prevent the professionals from earning their livelihood? There was absolutely no guarantee to them that their services would be required and no payment for simply retaining them. He must say that it was most dangerous even to think of it, and it would bring discredit on the assembly. They depended largely on the professional for the popularity of county cricket. He would never give his vote to what was tantamount to preventing a professional from selling what was his own. He earnestly warned the meeting against adopting the resolution and impressed on them the absence of any guarantee whatsoever to the professional.

Mr M Turner opposed the resolution and said that it would interfere with the freedom of contract which all Englishmen loved.

Mr A J Webbe, while opposing the motion, could only describe the practice as both ungenerous and unsportsmanlike for any county to entice a man to play for them from the club by which he had been reared.

In reply Mr J Smith said that his second proposition would prevent any abuse of the rule suggested by him.

The motion was then put and rejected.

Mr R H Mallett (Durham) moved – "That a committee of the County Cricket Council be appointed (1) to arrange the counties in classes; (2) to formulate and recommend a system of promotion by merit under which a county not in the first-class can rise to a higher class than the one in which it is originally placed." He said that for some years past many of the minor counties had depended largely on the generosity of a few persons. They were told that the Council considered all counties equal. Yet Dr W G Grace had first incidentally mentioned that there were eight first-class counties. What Durham wished was the formation of two classes. He suggested that some system be adopted from which the position of the counties at the end of the season could be easily ascertained. If second-class county cricket was to continue there must be some sort of competition devised. Under the existing conditions there was little or no interest in the matches. He was of opinion that the best plan would be that the two second-class counties that were at the top of the tree should displace the two first-class who were at the bottom, or some similar arrangement agreed to.

Lord Harris seconded the resolution, and in doing so said that he heartily agreed with it. When the Council was formed this was a question which he thought was not ripe then but would have to be eventually settled by them. He thought the time had now come to assist the counties which had not the opportunity of practically helping themselves. There was some difficulty attending the subject. They depended upon the goodwill of the bigger counties, who, of course, had to consider the question of finance. Business men would readily recognize the fact that matches were attended with heavy expenditure, and naturally the second-class counties did not attract very large gates. He did not, however, think that the difficulty was insuperable. There must be some classification, and

in this matter they had to thank the Press. The public demanded it, and they had come forward. Whatever the Council did they could not get away from the fact, to which he had already alluded, that they depended on the goodwill of the leading counties. For his own part he thought the request of the second-class counties was perfectly reasonable.

Mr W Ansell (Warwickshire) thanked Lord Harris for his support, and said that Warwickshire had been agitating for a classification for several years. They had a proposition which they would withdraw on condition that one phrase be included in the motion by Durham which was then before them. This was to insert after "council" the words "consisting of the president, with three representatives from first-class and three from second-class shires."

A discussion, in which Dr W G Grace, Mr Wostinholm (Yorkshire) and Mr Thompson (Northumberland) took part, followed.

The motion of Mr Mansell, with the words inserted at the request of Mr Ansell, was then carried by 12 votes to 4.

Viscount Cobham (better known to cricketers as Lord Lyttelton) was elected president, and the Hon Ivo Bligh hon. secretary and treasurer.

In reply to a vote of thanks, proposed by Dr H Bencraft, for his services to cricket, and also the Council's hearty congratulations on his appointment to the Governor-Generalship of Bombay, Lord Harris thanked them for their good wishes. He trusted that his action in proposing the establishment of the Council had not proved an unwise step. That day's discussion had shown that it would have been impossible for the Marylebone Club with the bulk of work on its shoulders to have spared the time for the consideration of these questions. He hoped that county cricket would ever remain the purest of our athletic sports. He particularly urged on them to discountenance in every way the introduction of money prizes or cups. If honour and glory were sufficient for first-class county players, he could not see that it should be different with those of lesser degree. He had had 20 years of county cricket, but in all probability his cricket-book was now closed. It would be a volume that he could always open with pleasure, and which would recall the most happy recollections of some of his best friends whom he had met in the cricket field.

The sub-committee for the classification of the second-[class] counties are to be provided by Gloucestershire, Surrey, Lancashire, Warwickshire, Somersetshire and Leicestershire.

Wednesday 11 December 1889, page 11: THE MEETING OF SECRETARIES AT LORD'S

The annual meeting of the county secretaries was held at Lord's yesterday, when there were present – Mr Henry Perkins, president of the Marylebone Club (chairman), Dr W G Grace (Gloucestershire), Mr J Shuter, Mr W W Read and Mr C W Alcock (Surrey), Mr J M'Laren and Mr S H Swire (Lancashire), Hon Ivo Bligh and Mr A J Lancaster (Kent), Mr W H C Oates and Mr E Browne (Nottinghamshire), Mr A J Webbe and Mr I D Walker (Middlesex), Mr M J Ellison and Mr J B Wostinholm (Yorkshire), Mr G Goldsmith and Mr W Newham (Sussex), Mr Arthur Wilson (Derbyshire), Mr C J E Jarvis (Norfolk), Mr W L Yorath (Glamorganshire), Mr E Robinson (Lincolnshire), Mr T C Slaney and Mr A H Heath (Staffordshire), Mr J H Vialls (Northamptonshire), Mr W Ansell (Warwickshire), Mr H Thornber and Mr J Horner (Cheshire), Mr R H Mallett (Durham), Mr C E Green and Mr C D Buxton (Essex), Dr Russel Bencraft (Hampshire), Mr T Burdett and Mr J Bonner (Leicestershire), Mr J Thompson and Mr S F Crauford (Northumberland), Mr C Pigg (Hertfordshire), Mr Murray Anderton and Mr W N Roe (Somerset), Mr A Worsley (North and East Ridings of Yorkshire) and Mr A J Mordaunt (Cambridge University).

The Chairman drew the attention of the meeting to the visit of the Australians, and suggested that great care should be exercised in arranging the dates of the representative matches, so that the best teams should be available. He deprecated, as misleading, the use of the title "an England Eleven" in reference to matches with Australians. The Marylebone Club had fixed May 19 for the benefit of John West, and he expressed a wish that the secretaries would arrange their matches so as not to detract from the interest of North v South on the occasion.

A resolution affecting the appointment of umpires was brought forward. It was proposed by Mr M J Ellison (Yorkshire) and seconded by Mr W H C Oates (Nottinghamshire) that umpires in Australian matches should be appointed by the Marylebone Club in the same way as in county fixtures. This was carried unanimously. The list of matches is subjoined.

[Note: this can be obtained from Cricket Archive at http://www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Seasons/1890_ENG.html]

The Colonial tour has prevented many new games between the first and second-class counties; Warwickshire v Kent is a notable exception. As in 1888 the Australians have representative matches at Lord's, the Oval and Old Trafford (Manchester).

COUNTY CRICKET

Yesterday, at Lord's, the representatives of Surrey, Middlesex, Kent, Nottinghamshire, Lancashire, Gloucestershire, Yorkshire and Sussex met privately, and decided to ascertain the positions of the clubs at the end of the season by the majority of wins over losses, drawn games to be ignored. This plan was subsequently adopted by the other counties.

Had this agreement been arrived at last season the three leading counties would have still been Nottinghamshire, Surrey and Lancashire, as their figures were – Notts, nine wins, two losses; Surrey, ten wins, three losses; Lancashire, ten wins, three losses. Each would under this new system have had seven points.