

THE TIMES REPORTS, 1892

Wednesday 27 January, page 7: YORKSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Yorkshire County Cricket Club was held in the pavilion dining-room, Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, last night. Mr J Ellison, jun., presided.

The report for the last year stated that the season had been unfavourable, only Hall's benefit and one other match of the five played at Bramall-lane having resulted favourably. In consequence, the balance in favour of the club was reduced from £258 13s 4d in 1890 to £152 15s in 1891. This was caused by the unfavourable weather which prevailed at nearly every match.

It had appeared advisable to the committee to yield in some degree to the agitation which had been raised, chiefly at Leeds, against the management of county cricket which had prevailed in Yorkshire since county cricket came to the front at all. This system of management was adopted in the first instance because no other town or district except Bradford would support Sheffield in the establishment of county cricket, and although Bradford assisted in the earlier stages of the endeavour, it was eventually left to Sheffield to support the entire burden of the work. Of the weight of this burden the present generation could form no idea. Sheffield in its love of the game could afford to be generous, and it was hoped that the concessions which had been made by the founders of county cricket in Yorkshire would be appreciated and received in the same spirit in which they had been accorded. The report was adopted.

Thursday 28 January, page 7: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY CLUB

Last evening at Nottingham the annual general meeting of this club was held, under the presidency of Colonel Denison. There was a large attendance of members.

Captain Oates, the honorary secretary, brought forward the report. This showed that there had been a considerable decrease in the receipts from gate money, a fact in a great measure attributable to the bad weather of last summer. The largest "gate" was £469 received from the Whitsun match with Surrey. The receipts amounted to £1,022 and the expenses to £1,387.

The record of first-class matches was 14 played, five won, four lost, five drawn. This year all the leading counties would visit Trent-bridge, included Somerset. Further subscriptions were asked for the fund to secure young players for the local clubs. A benefit match is to be given to Alfred Shaw at Trent-bridge.

Mr B Huntsman was elected president, the mayor of Nottingham vice-president and W H C Oates hon. sec. Lord Belper, Dr White and Mr James Forman were elected on the committee.

Tuesday 15 March, page 10: CRICKET

The annual meeting of the Kent County Club was held yesterday at the Golden Cross Hotel, Charing-cross, under the presidency of Lord Throwley. Among those present were Mr W H Patterson, the Hon Ivo Bligh, Mr H Knatchbull-Hugessen, M.P., Mr G Marsham, Mr F S W Cornwallis, M.P., Mr F Marchant, Mr P Hilton, Captain Austin, Captain M'Caulis, Mr W B Patisson, Captain Lambert, the rev C Randolph, Colonel Hardy, General Deane, Colonel Hartnell and Mr A J Lancaster.

While regretting that the county had not upheld its position of the previous season the committee were able to report a very satisfactory financial year. The number of members had increased, and the Canterbury week receipts were largely in excess of any ordinary season.

After the report had been adopted the election of Lord Harris, Captain Lambert, Mr W B Patisson, Mr H Knatchbull-Hugessen, Rev C E Nepean and Mr K M'Alpine to the committee was recorded. A vote of thanks to Lord Throwley, the president, brought the meeting to a close.

Friday 15 April, page 10: THE COMING CRICKET SEASON

The cricket season of 1892 is to be purely English in its nature. There always existed among the counties a slight element averse to the frequency of Australian visits, which the latter's ill-success in some recent tours tended to expand. Perhaps the climax was reached at the winter meeting of secretaries, a majority of whom threw much coldness on the projected tour this summer, and decided that the welcome should be deferred until 1893.

Events have since happened in Australia that must make the hastily spoken words about the decline of colonial cricket much regretted. Every one is aware of the great hold secured by county cricket on the public mind, and the Australian visit, without usurping the attention claimed by the counties, would have lent an always welcome variety to the season.

Everywhere the prospects of cricket are bright, and there are not wanting signs to show how anxious is the cricketing community to throw off the thralldom of a dreary and trying winter. The spell of bright, warm weather with which April was ushered in aroused, after a time, the fears of ground men for the early wickets. But the change this week, if unwelcomed and regretted by holiday folk, has been very beneficial to the turf, in which the moisture had long been absorbed before the growing of the young grass.

It will be seen that all the leading counties play each other twice. Somerset's progress last year well illustrated the merit of their inclusion in the front rank, and enabled them to bring up their programme to the level of the other clubs. The hope of all is that a break awaits us in the series of wet seasons of late so unkind to cricket.

Until the question of the new railway to London is definitely settled the Marylebone Club mind will remain uncertain as to future improvements at Lord's. Visitors will miss the white house in the south-west corner, and will note the substantial wall which is being built flush with the roadway at the back of the tennis-court. The turf is looking very well and reflects much credit on Pearce. There is plenty of grass on the wickets, and this fact will be appreciated after last year's experiences, when the pitches in many instances were rather bare.

The programme shows no decrease in the comprehensiveness of previous years. The majority of the cricket counties visit Lord's to meet Marylebone teams. Oxford v Cambridge is fixed for Thursday, June 30, an innovation from the custom of beginning the match at the opening of the week. Gentlemen v Players and Eton v Harrow are played in the same week, while early in June MCC v Royal Artillery and Bar v Army and interesting two-day fixtures.

Clayton, who has worked hard for the MCC for many years, is to be given a benefit on May 23, an old-fashioned title being utilized for the match – viz., Married v Single. The anniversary meeting and dinner will be held on the first Wednesday in May, at Lord's. As usual, the out-list is particularly heavy, and Marylebone continue their policy of fostering cricket by the sending of teams to a great many schools and clubs throughout the kingdom. There is an Irish tour, embracing games against the military of Ireland, the Gentlemen of Ireland and the county of Dublin, and these are arranged for the second week in July.

Additions have been made to the ground staff. Board, who came out as a wicket-keeper for Gloucestershire last year, Geeson, of Lincolnshire, and [Mead], of Essex, have been engaged. Wootton has left to go to Winchester College. The ground staff will consist of Tom Hearne, Farrands, Clayton, Rylott, Wild, W and T Mycroft, G G Hearne, A Hearne, Wheeler, Sherwin,

Flowers, Price, Barnes, W Hearn, Gunn, Carlin, Scotton, Phillips, Hay, Shacklock, Fothergill, Richardson, Attewell, Burns, Parnham, Whiteside, Burton, Whitehead, Pickett, Needham, Wootton, J T Hearne, Davenport, Board, Pentecost, Geeson, Titchmarsh, Mead, Chatterton, J E West, Martin, Pougher, Rawlin, Davidson and W A J West. Lord's will be opened to the members for practice on the 25th inst.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Oxford University have seven of the players available who took part in the match at Lord's last year. Mr L C H Palairt (Oriol) succeeds Mr M R Jardine in the captaincy, and Mr G F H Berkeley (Keble) is honorary secretary. Besides these Old Blues there are Mr W H Brain (Oriol), Mr H D Watson (Balliol), Mr T B Case and Mr A J Boger (Magdalen). Among the seniors the best are Mr V T Hill (Oriol), Mr R C N Palairt (Oriol), Mr R T Jones (New), F Leveson Gower (Magdalen), Mr A L Nelson (Merton) and Mr H B Taberer (Keble).

Of the freshmen it is rather difficult to speak. A good many have gone up from the public schools with excellent reputations. Probably Mr C B Fry, of Repton, is the best. His school record was ten innings (two not-outs), 395 runs; most in an innings, 144; average 49.3. He is now at Wadham College. Mr W S Case (Winchester and New) and Mr G M Carey (Sherborne) are both reported good players. Mr Carey did well last season in bowling for his school, taking 45 wickets at an average cost of 10.39.

Apart from the trial matches, the home fixtures are with Lancashire, Surrey, Marylebone, Gentlemen of England and Somerset. The last-named's visit to Oxford is quite a new feature, while the home game with Surrey will be pleasing to Oxford men in general. The teams met on tour are Lancashire (at Manchester), Sussex (at Brighton) and MCC (at Lord's) (two days). Oxford v Cambridge begins on June 30, a Thursday. The Dark Blues are very hopeful for an excellent season.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

Cambridge University cricket will seem a little strange without Mr S M J Woods, who contributed in no minor degree to the Light Blues' successive victories in 1889, 1890 and 1891. Not only will his bowling and batting be equally missed; his presence alone was invigorating to the side. Mr Woods was certainly one of the keenest cricketers ever at either University, and the matches of these seasons will doubtless be associated with his name by Cambridge and Oxford men. In his four Oxford v Cambridge matches Mr Woods took 36 wickets for 318.

Another gap in the team will be with difficulty filled. Mr M'Gregor as a wicket-keeper reached a standard of excellence that made his name worthy to be mentioned with the Hon Alfred Lyttelton, and there were not a few who were of opinion that Mr M'Gregor's skill was more finished, and if his manner of taking and stumping were a little quieter it was additionally certain.

The "Old Blues" in resistance this year are Messrs R N Douglas, G J V Weigall, A J L Hill, F S Jackson, E C Streatfeild, C M Wells and D L A Jephson. Mr F S Jackson is captain, Mr A J L Hill secretary and Mr R N Douglas assistant treasurer. Of the Seniors Messrs V F Leese (Trinity Hall), W Martin Scott (Jesus), N C Cooper (Jesus) and L H Gay (Clare) are the most likely candidates for the vacancies. But with a great number of good Freshmen up the fight for the open places will be

very keen.

Mr E J Whitting, last year's captain at Rugby, had a bowling average of 13.6 for 26 wickets, and in batting he made 151 runs at an average of 15.1. Mr W G Druce brings with him a good reputation as captain at Marlborough. Other Freshmen include Mr P H Latham, of Malvern and Pembroke, who had an average of 60.1 and scored 600 runs for his school; Mr J Douglas, Dulwich and Selwyn; Messrs A and J Marshall, of Clare, the latter a first-rate bowler at school; Mr W Neilson, Merchiston and Clare; Mr C G Pope, Harrow and Trinity, whose bowling record for the school was 40 wickets at an average of 9.33, and batting 263 runs, average 23.10; Mr G R Brewis, of Eton, who batted so brilliantly against Harrow at Lord's, and his aggregate for the season was 348, average 24.12; and Mr Perkins, of Leatherhead and Jesus. With such a wealth of fresh cricket the Cambridge captain should find no difficulty in securing first-class men for the vacancies. It must be borne in mind, of course, that public school form is frequently not maintained after going up to the University.

The Cambridge programme includes the regular fixtures, with the addition of a match with Somerset, who furnish the last game on the Cambridge ground. Then follow the matches at the Hove, Brighton, and Lord's, which leave the Light Blues four days' rest before Oxford are met.

SURREY

The Surrey eleven of the last few seasons has been so strong as to leave little room for improvement. In the hands of Lohmann, Sharpe and Lockwood the bowling should give no cause for anxiety. Lohmann and Sharpe have fared pretty well in the colonies during our winter, although in two notorious cases they were freely punished. Mr W W Read, Mr K J Key, Mr J Shuter, Maurice Read, Abel, Henderson, Lockwood and Lohmann furnish a great array of batting ability. Wood, the wicket-keeper, is reported well. Surrey, too, have great hopes of Brockwell. Apart from these there are Messrs Streatfeild, Douglas and Wells. Fielding is another strong point in Surrey cricket, and these alone helped them [frequently to] oust a strong batting side on a true wicket at a comparatively small cost.

Some Surrey members object to football on the Oval, urging with good reason that the ruggedness of the ground in the outfield and the badness of the practice turf are no beneficial to Surrey as a cricket club. Football might certainly be stopped sufficiently early in the year to allow of the turf's thorough recovery. However, the centre of the ground is in excellent condition, and since Apted joined the Surrey staff there has been no dearth in the supply of true pitches.

Surrey's fixture list continues to grow. In addition to the leading shires, a large number of the less important counties will be met. The club and ground teams do good service by the matches with village and country teams in various parts of the country. Surrey do not forget in the days of their prosperity to keep a watchfulness for the fostering and growth of young cricket. Surrey play Scotland at Edinburgh in June, and the return is fixed for July 11 at the Oval; both are excellent additions to the programme. The match with Oxford is renewed after a lapse of a season, and will take place at Oxford. Gentlemen v Players again figures on the card, and the August Bank Holiday is as usual devoted to the return with Notts. Surrey v North of England should lend fresh interest to the Scarborough Festival. The first big county match at Kennington is not until June 2.

MIDDLESEX

The Middlesex programme is on similar lines to last year's – viz., home and home matches with Kent, Surrey, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Lancashire and Sussex. At Lord's, the Whit Monday contest with Somerset has become quite an institution, and the fine game of 1890 gave to it a popularity that is unlikely to wane.

Mr A J Webbe, the captain, hopes to have the assistance of Messrs T C O'Brien, A E Stoddart, S W Scott, E A Nepean, E M Hadow, P J de Paravicini, G F Vernon and all the other amateurs of last summer, including Mr E S Lucas, who did well at Taunton and is a splendid field. J T Hearne, Rawlin, Phillips and Mr Nepean furnish plenty of skill and variety in the bowling department, and with the batsmen in form the team should render a good account of themselves in all the matches. Mr O'Brien, it will be remembered, batted brilliantly all through last season and, when Mr Webbe was temporarily injured, proved an able captain.

George Burton, who for so many years did good work as a bowler, will be given a benefit, and the match decided upon is one of the most attractive of the Middlesex season – i.e., v Surrey, at Lord's.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

A couple of new fixtures will lend fresh attention to the generally good programme associated with Trent Bridge. Somerset will play there on June 23, and the return with the western county is set down for August 18, at Taunton. Alfred Shaw, whose bowling for so many years was one of the strong points of the eleven in the days of Richard Daft and Fred Morley, will receive a benefit match, and the arrangement is that Lord Sheffield's powerful Australian team play the rest of England, beginning on May 16. The season opens with the colts' match on Monday.

Nottinghamshire has suffered more than any county by the young talent leaving for other cricket centres, and a scheme has been formulated for the prevention of what in the past has approached something like an exodus. As a club and ground would be too much of a burden on the county funds, the committee will place their promising young players with local clubs, who are to be financially assisted by the county in order to keep the men from wandering away.

The constitution of the eleven will be much the same as last year. Mr J A Dixon is again captain of the side, which includes Mr Wright, Attewell, Barnes, Flowers, Daft, Sherwin, Shrewsbury, Gunn, Bagguley and Shacklock. It is likely that R T Mee, the fast bowler, will be tried again, and two colts – Armstrong and Hardy – may also receive an opportunity in the less important fixtures.

The Trent Bridge ground is in excellent order; the pavilion has been improved and the wings permanently covered. It has also been proposed to decrease the length of the boundary, the playing field having been considered by some as too big.

Nottinghamshire now meet the whole of the leading counties. Last year's games with Derbyshire have not been renewed, but Warwickshire have been given a match for June 13, at Birmingham. As usual, the Whitsun and August Bank Holidays are devoted to the fixtures with Surrey, and it may be also noted that Notts figure in both the Canterbury and Cheltenham weeks.

SOMERSET

Somerset in every way merited their advance to the front rank last season. Their victory over the great Surrey team at Taunton will not readily be forgotten. This year the programme has been considerably extended and is the most arduous yet undertaken. All the first-class counties will be met, in addition to one match each with Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

They will rely on much the same eleven as in 1891, with Mr Hewett again captain; the cricketers available are – Messrs L C H Palaret, J B Challen, S M J Woods, C J Robinson, W N Roe, V T Hill, A E Newton and G Fowler, the Rev A P Wickham with Nichols and Tyler. It is proposed to play a colts' match at Taunton on May 6 and 7, from which some recruits for the team may be forthcoming.

Various improvements have been made at the county ground and there is increased accommodation for both members and the general public. The excellent condition of the turf reflects great credit on the ground man, Mettam. Fothergill, who played for the county for several years, will be given a benefit, and he has selected the return with Middlesex on August 22.

It may be noted that from the time of the Lancashire match on August 8 the team have two fixtures each week until the end of the season, which closes at Brighton in September with the game against Sussex.

LANCASHIRE

Mr A N Hornby will again captain the Lancashire eleven. During the winter there were rumours of his retirement, but these were ill-founded, and arose no doubt through Mr Hornby's energetic efforts to help in the prevention of the breaking up of the Cheshire club. Lancashire gave a helping hand in the resuscitation of the neighbouring shire.

Mr S M Crosfield's ability, both with the bat and in the field, is likely to be again of great service to the county. Other amateurs from whom much assistance is expected are Mr A T Kemble, the wicket-keeper, and Mr A C M'Laren, the old Harrow captain. Mr A G Steel plays so little county cricket that it is unlikely that he will be able to give Lancashire very much aid. The professional talent should prove as strong as ever; the all-round play of Briggs, the fine fast bowling of Mold and the useful work of Watson will be some strong points in the side, while Albert Ward, F Sugg, G Baker and G Yates may be relied upon to get plenty of runs. Frank Ward is engaged at Rossall School, but he will be available for some of the matches if required.

In addition to the fixtures with the leading counties, the programme embraces games with Cheshire, Durham, Warwickshire and Oxford University. With the exception of the Gloucestershire contest at Liverpool, the home matches will be played at Old Trafford, Manchester.

KENT

Kent will depend on much the same team as last year. No new players of any great promise have appeared, but it is hoped that some of those men tried in the summer of 1891 may develop into good batsmen. What mostly they want is another first-class bowler. Martin was wonderfully successful last year and had a remarkable average; Walter Wright and A Hearne were very useful, but the attack, the committee thinks, needs strengthening.

Surrey v Kent at Tonbridge on July 14 has been set apart for the benefit of Pentecost, whose wicket-keeping the county in some former years proved of great service. Messrs W H Patterson and F Marchant will share the captaincy, and the services of Messrs C J M Fox, L Wilson, M C Kemp, H M Braybrooke, W Rashleigh and A Daffen, with A Hearne, G G Hearne, F Martin, W Wright and Nuttall will be available.

Gloucestershire make their second appearance at Canterbury, an excellent fixture for the opening of the "Week;" the second match is Kent v Nottinghamshire, which lacks something of the interest aroused by the Surrey visit last year at the conclusion of the festival. Only leading county matches have been made, so that Warwickshire do not appear on the list.

The home engagements will take place on six different grounds – viz., Canterbury, Maidstone, Tonbridge, Gravesend, Catford-bridge and Blackheath. Since the last county game at the Rectory Field the turf has improved and good wickets are plentiful, while there should be no anxiety with regard to the Private Banks' turf at Catford.

Gentlemen v Players of Kent is an attractive addition to the programme. It takes place at Tonbridge in the last week of May and at Beckenham late in July, and should in some way compensate the club for the loss of any inter-county match.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Gloucestershire have every hope for a good season. Mr J J Ferris, the famous Australian bowler, becomes qualified in June, ready for the Surrey match at the Oval, and, judging from his recent trip to the Cape, he would seem to have retained all that skill which distinguished his cricket in 1890.

The county ground at Bristol is in excellent condition, and the team have taken every advantage of the fine weather to get plenty of practice. Roberts, Murch, Painter, Board, Cowley and Alfield, Mr H W Brown, Captain S de Winton and Dr E M Grace have been the most regular at the nets. Cowley may prove a useful bat and field. Captain de Winton is a fine field and a good, steady left-handed bat. Mr W M Hemingway, of Uppingham, and Mr Edward Henry, of the Agricultural College, Cirencester, will figure in the colts' match, and report says that both are good cricketers.

Dr W G Grace's successes in Australia have been highly gratifying to Gloucestershire, especially after his failures in the wet summer of 1891. All the old players will be available, Messrs Radcliffe, Pullen, Sainsbury, Townsend, Croome, Page and Cranston. Board, as a wicket-keeper, it is only hoped will do as well as last year, when he stumped 11 and caught 12. Dr E M Grace is rapidly recovering from the severe attack of influenza, and the fine weather and a little cricket have greatly aided his return to good health.

Home and home matches will be played with all the other first-class counties. The season begins in June. The Cheltenham week should be particularly attractive with the Notts and Surrey visits.

YORKSHIRE

Considering the skill possessed by Yorkshire, something should be done this season to regain their old position and reputation, which their records of 1891 and 1889 so much blemished. Lord Hawke will captain the team, and the committee hope to have again the aid of Mr F S Jackson, the

Cambridge captain, Mr E Smith, Ulyett, Peel, Hall, Wainwright, D Hunter and G P Harrison. Wardall and Tunnicliffe are also available. The names of several colts have been handed in to the committee for consideration on an early date.

During the last two or three years the cricketing community must have noticed a certain lack of enthusiasm in the general game of Yorkshire, and the lost matches have not infrequently been the result of lost catches. Fielding is a point which should be given greater attention in the Yorkshire eleven. Whatever happens, the team that can boast of such cricketers as Ulyett, Hall, Peel and Hunter will be expected to do better than lose ten of their 16 first-class games.

The matches are well distributed over the county – viz., at Sheffield, Leeds, Dewsbury, Bradford, Halifax and Hull, Sheffield, as in the past, being the headquarters of the county club. In addition to the leading shires, Yorkshire also engage Essex, Warwickshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Leicestershire and Durham, and visit Cambridge to meet the University on May 26.

SUSSEX

All the leading counties will be played by Sussex this year. Somerset are met for the first time, and the two University teams will, as last season, contest matches with Sussex on the Hove ground. There will be home and home games with Hampshire, while the eleven will visit Lord's and play the opening match of the season at headquarters with Marylebone. Brighton is much loved of batsmen, and the famous turf at Hove is again in fine order.

Mr W Newham will captain the side, and the eleven will be formed on the lines of 1891; the cricketers available are Bean, Mr G Brann, Mr G L Wilson, Mr C A Smith, Mr W H Dudney, Marlow, Humphreys, Mr W H Andrews, Tate, Jesse Hide, Butt, Mitchell and Hilton.

WARWICKSHIRE

At the county ground, Birmingham, the turf is in capital condition. There will be no great variation in the constitution of the Warwickshire team, of which Mr Bainbridge is again captain. Lilley, the wicket-keeper, has fully recovered his health, while Mr G E Hill expects to play much more frequently. Major is now qualified and will take his place in the eleven.

On Monday next Arthur Shrewsbury begins his engagement as coach to the club. Davidson has been released, since he expressed a wish to remain with Derbyshire. With all the old hands available, Warwickshire hope to make a far better record than in the disastrous summer of 1891.

ESSEX

Essex showed considerable improvement last year, and with more favourable weather they are looking for a further advance in their results. Their batting is strong, with Mr A P Lucas, Mr A S Johnston, Mr C D Buxton, Mr H G Owen, Mr F E Rowe, Carpenter and Burns. In bowling Mr F A Bishop, Mead and Pickett are the mainstay. Mead is an all-round, improving cricketer. The county hope to benefit by the cricket of Mr H M Taberer, of Oxford, a good field and change bowler, Mr G B Gosling, an Old Etonian, and Mr J C Bevington, of last year's Harrow Eleven.

With such a beautiful ground as that at Leyton the county have every advantage of pushing their men forward. Mr O R Borradaile, the secretary, and Pickett will captain teams for a trial match on Easter Monday. The programme comprises engagements with Surrey, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire and Hampshire, and one match with the MCC at Leyton.

LEICESTERSHIRE

Mr C E de Trafford will again captain Leicestershire, who are hopeful for a good season, having all their last year's men in readiness. There are 660 members of the club, which is in a most flourishing condition. John Wheeler has been given the Derbyshire match as a benefit. It may be noted that most of the professionals have been engaged at the county ground.

CESHIRE

The Cheshire Club has this year been disconnected from the Stockport Club and is now an independent organization. In consequence a greater interest in the club is apparent throughout the county. They are now certain of an income of £400 a year, the Lancashire club having been especially generous in its assistance. All they want now is a little success in the matches, which have wisely been distributed over various parts of the shire. Mr H R Bromley-Davenport, the Old Etonian, is the captain of a really promising side.

HAMPSHIRE

Hampshire have few changes to record. The side is to be captained by Mr H W Forster, of Eton and Oxford, and will include Mr F E Lacey, Dr R Bencraft, Captain Wynyard, Captain Barton, Captain W G Wyld, Mr A J L Hill, Mr L H Gay, Mr A C Richards, Mr C J R Richards, Mr C Robson and Mr G R Theobald, with Soar and Baldwin. Havant, Southampton and Andover have been fixed for club and ground matches in the hope of finding a new bowler or two. Surrey and Staffordshire disappear from the card, and their places are filled by Derbyshire and Oxfordshire.

DERBYSHIRE

Derbyshire have no new players in view, but they trust to fare well with all last year's men available. Home and home matches have been arranged with Yorkshire, Surrey, Hampshire, Cheshire, Essex and Leicestershire, while the side appears at Lord's early in May for a game with Marylebone.

DEVONSHIRE

The Rev G Townsend Warner, Newton Abbott, honorary secretary, writes that want of funds prevents Devonshire from arranging a good list of matches. They have four professionals and will be up to the usual standard in bowling, but perhaps weaker in batting.

HERTFORDSHIRE

The Hertfordshire programme embraces seven matches. The home fixtures are at Watford, Bishop's Stortford and Hitchin. St Albans suggests itself as a place where a good game would be likely to arouse interest.

Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Oxfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Durham and Northumberland have all arranged programmes of considerable attraction.

At the Lyric Club, St Ann's, Barnes, there will be the visit of the Marylebone team on June 11, and at the end of the same month is fixed the two days' annual match between Old Etonians and Old Harrovians.

[Revised fixture list follows.]

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COLTS' MATCH

(Potted scores) Colts [22 players] 156 (A O Jones 39, G H Rushworth 43; Bagguley 10/27, Flowers 7/23) and 104/13 (C Wilkinson 33; W Flowers 5 wkts). The Eleven 174 (C W Wright 24, O Redgate 23, Barnes 31, J A Dixon 21, Bagguley 40*; J Flowers 4/11). Match drawn.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 19 April, page 9)

The conditions for a trial of young players were anything but favourable at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, when snow fell and a cold wind blew over the ground. There were three notable absentees from the eleven – viz., Shrewsbury, Sherwin and Attewell.

Going in first, the Colts were batting during the greater part of cricketing hours. Mr A O Jones, who as captain of the Bedford Grammar School team in 1890 scored 499 at an average of 38.5, played in excellent style, while Mr G H Rushworth threw plenty of vigour into his batting, and the pair put on 51 for the sixth wicket. The last 13 men were dismissed for 17 runs, and the innings was completed for 156. Bagguley's ten wickets for 27 runs and Flowers's seven for 23 were the best bowling analyses. The eleven went in, but the bad weather caused stumps to be drawn before the usual time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 2 April, page 5)

Improved weather and brighter cricket were noticeable at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, when the trial of colts was brought to a close. The Eleven, who had scored 21 without loss of wicket overnight, fared well for some time, Barnes batting with much success.

Soon after the three figures had been reached a change came over the game. J Flowers, a cousin of the county player and a medium-pace right-hand bowler, and Wilkinson, fast right-hand, dismissed the Eleven rapidly, until Mr Wright and Bagguley offered a determined resistance. Bagguley threw plenty of vigour into his batting, and in the end the colts' total was passed. Flowers dismissed four of the county for 11 runs and Wilkinson two for 30. The young players went in a second time and the match was eventually drawn . . .

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COLTS' MATCH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/157/157805.html)

(Potted scores) Colts [23 players] 182 (A Wills 20, E R Berry 26, A N Langdon 37; Roberts 6/62, Murch 5/32) and 100/16 (A N Langdon 36; J J Ferris 6 wkts, Roberts 6 wkts). The Eleven 142 (Atfield 23, Cowley 29, F Townsend 28, H W Brown 26). Match drawn.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 19 April, page 9)

Cricket at the County Ground, Bristol, yesterday, when this match began, was several times interrupted by the bad weather. In several instances the Colts, who went in first, showed promising batting. Langdon, Henry, Berry and Wills did well, although the last-named had a couple of escapes. Mr Ferris's three wickets cost 42 runs and Dr Grace's three wickets eight runs, while Roberts secured six wickets for 62 and Murch five wickets for 32 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 2 April, page 5)

The conditions for cricket at Bristol yesterday were much more favourable than on the opening day, when the colts completed an innings for 182. Various members of the eleven batted well, but the side was not seen to much advantage in the field. The game was drawn . . .

2 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY – THE SENIORS' MATCH

(Potted scores) Mr C W Little's Side 214 (R T Jones 52, L Mortimer 43, F Street 21, C W Little 34; C E Dunlop 5/56) and 73/1 (B L Richmond 26*, W P Kingston 31*) . Mr J B Wood's Side 143 (J B Wood 73, C E Dunlop 30; R T Jones 5 wkts).

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 3 May, page 11)

Little progress could be made with the University's first match at Oxford yesterday. Rain prevented a start for an hour after the appointed time, and soon caused a further delay for 15 minutes.

Mr Hill's Side started the batting, Messrs Jones and Mortimer facing the attacks of Messrs Taberer and Hill. Runs came pretty freely, and the bowling was intrusted to Messrs Tapsfield and Dunlop. The score was advanced to 71, however, before the first batsman, Mr Mortimer, was dismissed; among his hits were eight fours. Mr Richmond joined Mr Jones, who batted in good style. A drenching shower fell at 5 o'clock, when stumps were drawn for the day . . .

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

At Oxford yesterday it rained during the morning, but so far improved later that play was resumed at 2 o'clock. On the previous day Mr Little's side had started the batting, and at the drawing of stumps had scored 111 for the loss of Mr Mortimer's wicket. Messrs Jones and Richmond (not-outs with 52 and nine) resumed batting to the attacks of Messrs Hill and Tapsfield.

Not a run had been scored when Mr Jones was clean bowled; his chief hits were six fours, a three and seven twos. Mr Richmond left at 120, and Messrs Street and Little became partners. These batsmen played carefully, and at 147 Mr Tapsfield handed the ball to Mr Dunlop, a change which proved successful, as for an addition of seven runs he clean bowled Mr Street, while he also dismissed Mr Latter at 176. Eight runs were put on, and Mr Little was disposed of, while the innings closed soon after 4 o'clock for a total of 214. Mr Dunlop was credited with five wickets for 56 runs.

Mr Wood's team started their batting, but beyond the captain, whose wicket was intact at the end of the day, the defence was feeble.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 5 May, page 10)

Play in this match was continued yesterday at Oxford. On the previous day Mr Little's Side were all out for 214, and Mr Wood's team had lost six wickets for 113. The weather was again unfavourable and at last the rain stopped play.

2 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY – THE FRESHMEN’S MATCH

(Potted scores) Mr A J L Hill’s Side 245/8 (C G Pope 23, T N Perkins 61, E Field 63*) v Mr F S Jackson’s Side.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 3 May, page 11)

Most uncomfortable weather was experienced yesterday at Cambridge, when play in the annual Freshmen’s match began on the University ground. Mr A J L Hill and Mr F S Jackson captained the sides, and the former’s began the batting.

After three wickets had fallen for 41, Messrs Whitting and Pope carried the total to 77, when the latter was taken at long slip, while at 90 Mr Whitting was bowled. Now came a determined stand by Messrs Perkins and Field. No fewer than 105 resulted from their partnership when Mr Perkins, who had batted vigorously, fell to a catch at slip. His chief hits were seven fours, five threes and four twos. Mr Lodge, who joined Mr Field, was secured at slip when the score had reached 224. Mr Druce did little and Mr Stork came to the aid of Mr Field. The latter continued to bat well until 6 o’clock, when play ceased for the day . . .

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

Rain fell persistently throughout the morning at Cambridge yesterday, and although it cleared in the afternoon it was decided to defer the continuance of this match until to-day at 11.30. The sides are captained by Mr A J L Hill and Mr F S Jackson, and the former’s, when stumps were drawn on Monday, had lost eight wickets for 245 runs.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 5 May, page 10)

There was a further downpour of rain yesterday at Cambridge, and it was decided to postpone play in this match until Monday next. The Perambulators and Etceteras, who were to have met on that day, will probably play later in the season.

Thursday 5 May, page 10: THE MARYLEBONE CLUB

In the Pavilion at Lord's yesterday evening the 105th Anniversary meeting on the Marylebone Club was held, Mr V E Walker, the president, in the chair. Among those present were the Earl of Lichfield, Sir Spencer Ponsonby Fane, Sir A W L Hemming, Colonel Bircham, Mr Denzil Onslow, Mr W E Denison, Mr A J Webbe, Mr I D Walker, Mr W Nicholson, Mr J Robertson, Mr A W Ridley, Mr E M Hadow, Mr C W Wright, Mr C K Francis, Mr J M'Laren, Mr S Bircham, Mr A Turner and Mr P J de Paravicini.

The committee reported that in 1891 the club consisted of 3,769 members, of these 3,303 paid, 218 were life members and 248 were abroad. During the season 155 matches were played – 92 were won, 33 drawn and 30 lost.

At the special general meeting held in the winter a recommendation of the committee was adopted as to the date of election of candidates. The old rules as to dates of election had been in force since the formation of the club, and it was felt that it was not satisfactory to elect members when the season was practically over; under the present rule elections began in January and terminated in June. The opinion of that meeting was also taken as to the allotting of reserved seats at the Universities and public school matches, and in accordance with the opinion expressed at the meeting it had been decided to revert to the old system, except that for the future the seats will be balloted for amongst those who applied for them before June 1. Those who did not get reserved seats could have provisional tickets available for any vacant seat.

The terms offered by the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway in their proposed extension to London were submitted to the meeting, which decided to accept them. The committee have decided that in future a notice of every special general meeting, stating the purpose for which such meeting is called, will be sent to every member.

The Hon E Chandos Leigh, Mr A Appleby, Captain J St J Frederick and Mr E Rutter retired by rotation from the committee, and Mr V E Walker, Mr H T Hewett, Mr A N Hornby and Mr Montagu Turner were duly nominated and elected.

The Hon Alfred Lyttelton and Sir E Grey are the respective holders of the Gold and Silver tennis prizes. The committee had further to report the death of Mr F Furness, assistant clerk, in whom the club had lost a faithful and valued servant.

The ground staff will consist of T Hearne, Farrands, Clayton, Rylott, Wild, G G Hearne, Wheeler, Sherwin, T Mycroft, W Hearn, Flowers, Price, Barnes, Gunn, Scotton, Hay, Fothergill, Attewell, Parnham, Burton, Pickett, Davenport, Pentecost, Titchmarsh, Chatterton, J E West, Martin, Pougher, Rawlin, A Hearne, Carlin, Davidson, Phillips, Shacklock, Richardson, Whitehead, Whiteside, Burns, Bean, Moorhouse, Needham, J T Hearne, Geeson, Board and Mead. The report was adopted, and the business meeting quickly ended.

At the anniversary dinner held in the evening, Mr V E Walker, the retiring president, nominated Mr W E Denison as his successor.

5 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY – THE FRESHMEN’S MATCH

(Potted scores) Mr L C H Palairet’s Side 342 (C B Fry 118, E S Thomas 69, T C Robinson 24, A H Holdship 26*) and 66/5 (C B Fry 53). Mr G F H Berkeley’s Side 255 (F A Phillips 46, C A Alington 24, A W Ruty 23, L G Brown 23, C H S Gmelin 28; C B Fry 6 wkts) and 216/11 dec (F A Phillips 32, C A Alington 20, L G Brown 36, M Wade-Smith 25, S A Higson 30*; C B Fry 4 wkts). Match drawn.

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 May, page 8)

There was a numerous company in the Parks at Oxford yesterday, when play began between two teams of Freshmen, captained by Mr L C H Palairet and Mr G F H Berkeley. The former went in a little before 2 o’clock and kept possession of the wickets for the rest of the day.

Mr Fry carried off the batting honours with a fine score of 118, the compilation of which occupied two and a quarter hours. Three hard chances were given by him, when he had made 23, 37 and 68. Six bowlers were tried before Mr Phillips found his way to the wicket. Mr Fry’s chief hits were 13 fours and six threes. This gentleman, who also plays Association football well, won the long jump at the recent Oxford v Cambridge Athletic meeting, when he accomplished the best on record – 23ft 5in.

After his dismissal, Mr Thomas offered determined opposition to the attacks and speedily put together 69, in which fours were numerous. Among the bowlers tried were Messrs Casey, Phillips, Orlebar, Fisher, Ruty and Berkeley. The last wicket did not fall until 20 minutes to 7. Total, 342.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 May, page 11)

Play in this match was resumed yesterday at Oxford in improved weather. Being in a minority of 87 runs, Mr Berkeley’s side will follow on to-day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 9 May, page 10)

Judging from the form shown in this match, which began on Thursday in the Parks at Oxford and ended on Saturday, the Dark Blues possess many Freshmen whose batting is far above the average. At the close of Friday’s play each side had completed an innings and Mr Berkeley’s, in a minority of 87, followed on when the game was continued on Saturday. The attendance was large and the weather kept fine.

Free batting was shown by Messrs Phillips, Brown, Alington, Higson and Wade Smith, and at half-past 5, when 11 wickets were down for 216, or 129 runs on, Mr Berkeley declared the innings of his side over. Mr Palairet’s team thus had 130 set them for victory, but although time would not admit of these being obtained, some fine batting was shown. Mr Fry, who had hit so vigorously on the opening day, again did well and after 40 minutes’ play 66 runs were recorded, the match being left drawn . . .

5 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY – THE SENIORS' MATCH

(Potted scores) Mr L H Gay's Side 220 (V F Leese 21, F J Nicholls 31, E Stogdon 93, L H Gay 29; H R Bromley-Davenport 6/59) and 47/1 (K S Ranjitsinhji 29*). Mr W Martin-Scott's Side 115 (N C Cooper 22, H R Bromley-Davenport 43*; G A T Foljambe 3/21, A J Daniell 7/74) and 149 (N C Cooper 29, M G Tollemache 43, T Tubbs 34; A J Daniell 6/33). Mr L H Gay's Side won by nine wickets.

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 May, page 8)

In bitterly cold weather this annual match began yesterday at Cambridge, the sides being captained by Mr L H Gay and Mr W Martin Scott. The former first occupied the wickets, Messrs Leese and Nicholls facing the attacks of Messrs Bromley-Davenport and Leigh-Clare at 20 minutes past 12.

In the latter bowler's first over, Mr Nicholls should have been taken at point, but was let off. He did not fail to profit by this indulgence and hit with freedom. The innings realized 220. Mr Bromley-Davenport took six wickets for 59 runs. Mr Martin Scott's team batted until half-past 5, when stumps were drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 May, page 11)

Yesterday, at Cambridge, this match was concluded. Mr Gay's side won by nine wickets.

5 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3787.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 6 May, page 8)

Yesterday at Lord's Marylebone were successful in the toss . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 7 May, page 11)

This, the opening fixture at Lord's, which began on Thursday and was concluded yesterday, proved quite a bowler's match. From the complete score which follows, it will be seen that Marylebone won by 70 runs.

Lord Oxenbridge presided over the annual general meeting of the Surrey Club, held yesterday at Kennington-oval. In the report the committee expressed their sorrow at the sad loss the country had sustained by the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, and gave the replies received from the Queen and the Prince of Wales in response to the messages of condolence.

The committee stated that £1,620 had been expended on new buildings and repairs. Again had the eleven to be congratulated on their great success. This season's programme included matches with Derbyshire, Essex, Gloucestershire, Kent, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Middlesex, Notts, Somerset, Sussex, Warwickshire, Yorkshire, Cambridge University, Oxford University, North of England and Scotland, while Gentlemen v Players would be decided at the Oval on July 11, 12 and 13.

In the interests of Surrey cricket a coach had been appointed to instruct young players of the county. During the year 230 members were elected, bringing the numbers of the club to 3,247. Sir R E Webster, Q.C., M.P., had been chosen on the committee since the last annual meeting, a vacancy having occurred through the death of Mr G C Morrison.

Receipts from cricket matches last year amounted to £4,434; there was a sum of £3,158 from football, while subscriptions came to £4,062. The chief items in the expenditure were £2,996 for cricket and £2,244 for football. There was a balance of £8,613. The report and accounts were adopted, after which the election of officers resulted thus: - President, Lord Oxenbridge; vice-president, Earl of Bessborough; honorary treasurer, Mr W Cattley; and Mr C W Alcock, secretary.

The annual general meeting was held yesterday at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton. Mr C E Green presided. In their report the committee stated that last season was highly satisfactory compared with the previous year, and referred also to the improved cricket of the team generally.

Whilst congratulating the members upon the financial success of the football season, the committee had to regret the small receipts from cricket, a fact they attributed to the badness of the weather last summer, when every home match was spoilt, more or less, by rain. The roll of members now stands at 906.

It is hoped that Mr Lang, of Colchester, will render the county plenty of cricket assistance; he brings with him from India a good reputation. The balance-sheet showed a sum of £1,484 due to the bankers, and it was suggested that this debt might be met by 200 or 300 members paying a five years' subscription in advance. After some discussion the accounts and report were adopted.

6 May: SOMERSET COLTS' MATCH

(Potted scores) Somerset 256 (H T Hewett 23, F J Poynton 54, Clapp 20, Nichols 106*). Eighteen Colts 175 and 264/16 (Hale 135). Match drawn.

Day 1 (no scorecard or report from Saturday 7 May, page 11)

Day 2 (report from Monday 9 May, page 10)

At the County-ground, Taunton, a trial match of Somerset colts was played on Friday and Saturday, and left drawn. Nichols batted effectively for the club and ground, his not-out contribution of 106 including 13 fours. Hale, of Bedminster, hit vigorously in the second venture of the colts for 136, which comprised one six, one five, 16 fours, five threes, ten twos &c. Tyler, in the double innings of the colts, took 19 wickets for 185 runs.

Saturday 7 May, page 7: TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir, - May I suggest, in the interest of cricket, that the three days' matches, instead of commencing as they now do on Mondays and Thursdays, should commence on Saturdays and Wednesdays? It is very rarely that a three days' match extends to the afternoon of the third day, and the consequence is that on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons practically no opportunities are afforded for witnessing first-class cricket matches. Saturday afternoon is a general holiday and Wednesday afternoon is a general school holiday. How often in the season can first-class cricket be viewed on Saturday afternoons either at Lord's or the Oval?

I know there are objections to the alteration I propose, but the increase in gate money and in the public interest in cricket would be enormous if, in the leading grounds in the country, county and first-class cricket could be seen on Saturday and Wednesday afternoons. Your obedient servant,

Birmingham

X.Y.Z.

9 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3788.html)

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

The terraces on the north side of Lord's were well filled with spectators yesterday when play in this match began. Marylebone won the toss and took possession of an excellent wicket. Mr Wright and Chatterton faced the attacks of Briggs and Watson.

When only 11 had been made the first-named fell to the wicket-keeper. Gunn joined Chatterton, and at 31 Watson gave up the ball to Baker, while 40 runs later Smith relieved Briggs. Chatterton batted well, but when he had scored 26 he narrowly escaped being run out. An hour's play produced 55 runs, and although further changes in the bowling were made 90 were recorded at the adjournment without further loss.

Subsequently the 100 was reached within three overs, but for an addition of nine Gunn was clean bowled; he had been batting two hours for his 46. Barnes was quickly dismissed, but Chatterton and Attewell hit rather freely. The former gave a most difficult return chance to Briggs when he had made 54. Further variations in the attack were adopted, and at 139 Attewell was bowled, while the dismissal of Mr Foley caused half the wickets to be lost with the total at 171.

Chatterton continued to bat with confidence. He completed his 100 at a quarter-past 5 with an on-drive for three, a hit which sent the total past the 200. Chatterton now played very steadily, and his chief assistant was Martin who made 23 of the 32 runs made while he was in. Sherwin was bowled by the first ball he received, and the innings was over at a quarter to 6 for 238. Chatterton, who was heartily cheered, remained unconquered for 109; his chief hits were nine fours, three threes and 11 twos.

Lancashire, whose fielding had been good, had half an hour's batting and obtained 24 without loss of wicket.

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

There was again a numerous company at Lord's yesterday to witness the continuation of this match. At the drawing of stumps on the previous evening Marylebone had completed an innings for 238, and the county had scored 24 without mishap. Mr Hornby and Ward resumed batting at 11.35 to the attacks of Hearne and Martin.

The Lancashire captain made two fours by a leg hit and cut, but at 52 he was caught by the wicket-keeper. Smith came and, with the score at 59, Hearne handed the ball to Attewell. Seven runs later three batsmen were dismissed – Ward caught at slip off the shoulder of his bat, Smith taken at wicket and Tinsley bowled. Messrs Crosfield and M'Laren became partners, and a leg hit for three by the former shot the total up to "100" at 1 o'clock; but five runs later he was caught at point. Briggs and Baker both batted well – the former made two splendid cuts and the latter a couple of drives, the ball on each occasion going to the boundary. At the interval 150 runs were recorded for seven wickets, only nine being required to save the follow on. The innings closed, however, for 155.

With a deficiency of 83 Lancashire started their second venture. Ward, who went in first, was the last to leave. The ninth wicket fell at 79, and then he and Watson threw some life into the batting. The latter hit Attewell to the on, and the ball, pitching on the Grand Stand, went out of the ground, thus crediting him with six runs. Ward, who hit freely for his 64, in which were eight fours, three threes and eight twos, was bowled. Total 110.

Marylebone required 28 runs for victory, which Mr Wright and Chatterton obtained in less than half an hour. From the full score which follows it will be seen that Lancashire lost by ten wickets.

9 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY – THE ELEVEN v SIXTEEN FRESHMEN

(Potted scores) Sixteen Freshmen 143 (F A Phillips 24, C H S Gmelin 42, E S Thomas 21; T B Wilson 9 wkts) and 285 (R W Rice 66, A H Holdship 40, C H S Gmelin 49; G F H Berkeley 6 wkts, L C H Palairet 5 wkts, T B Wilson 4 wkts). The Eleven 166 (V T Hill 30, R T Jones 21, T B Case 55*; M Berkeley 5 wkts) and 105 (T B Case 20, T B Wilson 27; C B Fry 4 wkts). Sixteen Freshmen won by 157 runs.

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

In delightful weather and before a large company, this match was begun yesterday at Oxford. There are only five of last year's eleven in resistance – viz., Mr Palairet (the captain) and Messrs Berkeley, Brain, Boger and T B Case.

The Freshmen were first at the wickets and their innings realized 143. For the eleven, Messrs Hill and Jones put together 42 for the first (Mr Hill's) wicket . . .

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

At Oxford yesterday play in this match was resumed in charming weather. On Monday the Freshmen were all dismissed for 145, and four of the Eleven were out for 85 runs. Mr Case (who had scored nine) saw the rest of his side disposed of for a total of 166; his 55 comprised five fours, two threes, eight twos &c.

The Freshmen were 23 in arrear when they entered on their second innings. This they started in an unpromising manner, losing six wickets for 56. Messrs Rice and Gmelin, however, speedily altered the aspect of affairs, and their partnership yielded no fewer than 102 runs. Mr Rice, who obstructed his wicket, hit hard for 66, in which were eight fours and two twos, while Mr Gmelin's 49 included five fours, three threes and five twos. At the close of the day's play the Freshmen were 191 runs on and had still six wickets to fall.

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

Yesterday this match was brought to a close at the Parks at Oxford, when the Freshmen won by 157 runs.

9 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY – THE FRESHMEN’S MATCH

(Potted scores) Mr A J L Hill’s Side 313 (C G Pope 23, T N Perkins 61, E Field 92*, C F Stork 21; H S Parker 4 wkts) and 79/1 (J Douglas 44*). Mr F S Jackson’s Side 155 (J Osborne 51, F S Jackson 22) and (following on) 235 (A O Jones 53, J Osborne 47, F S Jackson 25*; C G Pope 7 wickets). Mr A J L Hill’s Side won by eleven wickets.

Day 2 (report from Tuesday 10 May, page 10)

At Cambridge, yesterday, the novelty of continuing a match left unfinished some days since lent addition attention to the Freshmen’s fixture. Mr Hill’s side, who had made 245 for eight wickets on the 2nd inst., completed their innings for 313. Mr Field carried out his bat for 92. Among his contributions were five fours, six threes and eight twos. It is worthy of note that there were no fewer than 50 “extras” in the innings of Mr Hill’s side.

At a quarter-past 1 Mr Jackson’s team went in, Messrs Jones and Norman being the early batsmen. At luncheon time the record stood at 57 for three wickets. Mr Osborne showed excellent defence, but apart from him there was very little in the batting, although Mr Jackson, the University captain, hit freely towards the close. The venture occupied two hours and a half and realized 155, a total that necessitated a follow on.

Day 3 (report from Wednesday 11 May, page 11)

The closing stage of this match at Cambridge yesterday produced some excellent bowling by Mr Pope, who went up with a good represent from Harrow, and vigorous batting by Mr J Douglas, of Dulwich and Selwyn.

When play was resumed Mr Jackson’s team had yet 36 to obtain for the avoidance of an innings defeat, and they had eight wickets in hand. Mr A O Jones, the not-out with 44, only scored nine more runs before a catch at slip dismissed him. The batsmen then left rapidly, and when Mr Jackson was joined by Mr Leveson-Gower the side were only 33 ahead. However, the last wicket put on 44. Mr Leveson-Gower was then dismissed, the total having reached 235.

With 78 necessary for victory, Mr Hill’s team entered upon their second venture. They lost Mr Perkins at 14, but then came fine batting by Mr Douglas, and eventually Mr Hill’s side won by 11 wickets.

9 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COLTS v YORKSHIRE COLTS

(Potted scores) Nottinghamshire Colts 149 (Wilkinson 28, J Moss 24, T Armstrong 50; W Cuttle 6 wkts) and 208 (O Redgate 83, G Fryer 31, G Woolley 27*; W Cuttle 4 wkts, W L Frank 4 wkts). Yorkshire Colts 196 (J Mounsey 50, T Denton 53, H Walton 23*; Wilkinson 6 wkts) and 139/5 (F Mitchell 34, J Mounsey 39, W L Frank 37; Wilkinson 4 wkts).

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

Yesterday, at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, the annual match between the young players of these counties began.

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

After a capital game, which began on Monday at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, this match was left drawn yesterday. The feature of the day's play was the batting of Redgate, in whose 83 were six fours, seven threes and ten twos. In the double innings Cuttle took ten wickets for 97 runs and Wilkinson ten for 105 for their respective sides.

Tuesday 10 May, page 10: LORD SHEFFIELD'S TEAM

The Valetta arrived at Plymouth yesterday, and among the passengers were the majority of Lord Sheffield's team. Dr W G Grace and family left for Bristol.

Wednesday 11 May, page 11: At a special meeting of the Nottinghamshire Club, held yesterday at Nottingham, it was decided to endorse the suggestion from Somersetshire that a meeting of county secretaries was desirable to consider whether an Australian team of cricketers should be invited to visit England in 1893. Mr J A Dixon was re-elected captain of the Nottinghamshire eleven.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3789.html)

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

For many years past Mr C I Thornton has taken an England Eleven to Cambridge, but as he is abroad, a powerful side was yesterday captained by Mr A J Webbe. The weather was bright and the home eleven, having lost the toss, took their positions in the field within a few minutes of noon. Messrs De Trafford and Hewett were opposed by Messrs Streatfeild and Bromley-Davenport.

A catch at mid-off quickly sent back the first-named batsman. Mr Murdoch appeared and, having escaped being caught by third man, he and Mr Hewett hit freely. Fifty runs were recorded after a little more than half an hour's play, this, too, in spite of bowling changes. When the score had been advanced to 68, Mr Hewett was clean bowled. His principal hits were six fours, one three and eight twos. Mr Murdoch continued to play well and saw the dismissal of the rest of his side, the last of whom went with the total at 215. Among his hits were five fours, two threes and eight twos.

The Cambridge team included seven of last year's eleven who played at Lord's, the new men being Messrs L H Gay, N C Cooper, H R Bromley-Davenport and J Douglas. With the exception of Mr Jackson, who went in third wicket down and was seventh out at 110, the batting of the Light Blues was disappointing. The merit of the captain's 53 was marred by three chances. It included five fours and two threes. Cambridge, who are 98 behind, will follow their innings to-day.

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

Thursday's play in this annual match at Cambridge resulted in an innings to each side, the visitors, under the captaincy of Mr A J Webbe, obtaining 215 and the home eleven 117. Yesterday, in fine weather, the University followed on, and soon showed that they possessed far greater skill with the bat than their first venture had indicated.

When Mr R N Douglas was caught at cover slip he had been at the wickets two hours, and his chief hits were five fours, for threes and eight twos. Mr Cooper batted very carefully; he was two hours and ten minutes getting 45, in which were two fours, four threes and six twos. Mr Jackson's principal figures were five fours, three threes and 12 twos. In the closing part of the innings vigorous hitting was shown by Mr Bromley-Davenport.

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

Brilliant batting by the University on the second day of this match at Cambridge left the visitors 271 for victory and a complete innings in which to get them. They began their batting at 11.50 on Saturday. Messrs De Trafford and Hewett were opposed by Messrs J Douglas and Bromley-Davenport.

The start was not hopeful. Six runs only were made when Mr De Trafford was caught in the long-field, and at 27 Mr Hewett was secured by the wicket-keeper. Four batsmen were dismissed for 48 runs, and then Messrs Murdoch and Webbe were partners. These infused some spirit into the game and several changes in the attack were adopted. It was not until 104 had been reached, however,

that the Middlesex captain was caught at slip.

After the interval Mr Murdoch, who had gone in second wicket down, played well for some time longer. He was the eighth to leave, having batted for two hours and a quarter in splendid style and without giving a chance; his chief hits were two fours, nine threes and five twos. Mr Gay kept wicket well, and the last batsman was disposed of for 173. Cambridge were thus victorious by 97 runs.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128127.html)

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

Another large company assembled at Lord's yesterday to witness the start of this match. Marylebone were again successful in the toss, and at ten minutes past 12 Lord Hawke and G G Hearne faced the attacks of Davidson and Hulme.

The batting opened briskly, Lord Hawke making 12 in three hits from Hulme, who at 48 gave the ball to Porter. Lord Hawke was soon bowled, and 54 was recorded for the first wicket. The partnership of Mr T C O'Brien and Barnes proved productive and brought about several alterations in the bowling. The former made three fours from successive balls in an over former Bagshaw, and at the interval the score stood at 136 for three wickets. Quickly afterwards Mr O'Brien was bowled; his chief hits were a five (four from an overthrow), six fours, three threes and three twos. Barnes, who had obtained 50 in an hour and three-quarters, played on; his score was made up of five fours, five threes, three twos &c. Six for 217. A fine stand was made by Martin and Sherwin for the last wicket, and the innings closed for 274, after three hours and 55 minutes' play.

Derbyshire began in a most unpromising manner, losing Chatterton, Sugg, Bagshaw and Mr F Evershed for 11 runs. Hulme and Davidson quickly improved matters. Although the bowling was several times changed, these batsmen had advanced the total to 77 and still had their wickets intact when stumps were drawn for the day.

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

Play in this match was continued yesterday at Lord's before a numerous company of spectators. On Thursday Marylebone had completed an innings for 274, and four Derbyshire wickets were down for 77. The innings closed for 172 at half-past 1, and Derbyshire followed on.

The second innings produced a total of 142. Marylebone now required 41 to win, and these they obtained in half an hour. From the full score it will be seen that Derbyshire were beaten by nine wickets.

12 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY – THE ELEVEN v NEXT SIXTEEN

(Potted scores) The Eleven 303 (L C H Palairet 25, C B Fry 105, V T Hill 35, B L Richmond 57; M Berkeley 4 wkts) and 178 (B L Richmond 70, A J Boger 20, T S B Wilson 39). Next Sixteen 403 (R W Rice 38, L Mortimer 54, A W Ruttly 23, R H Raphael 101, C W Little 53, H M Taberer 27, W S Case 23, C H S Gmelin 25; F A Phillips 4 wkts, L C H Palairet 4 wkts) and 79/1 (W P Kingston 36*, A W Ruttly 34*). Next Sixteen won by fourteen wickets.

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

Another success by Mr C B Fry, of Repton School and Wadham, has to be recorded. Yesterday in the Parks at Oxford he showed how merited was his place in the eleven by scoring 105; it was only last Thursday that he played a three-figure innings in the Freshmen's match, and he has since further distinguished himself both with bat and ball.

On this occasion he went in second wicket down at 26 and was not out until 252. His innings occupied three hours, and combined sound defence with some free hitting. He made two sixes (one each from Mr Gmelin and Mr Dunlop) and ten fours. Two other sixes were scored during the afternoon – one by Mr Hill off Mr Dunlop and another by Mr Palairet from Mr Berkeley. Mr Richmond also threw plenty of vigour into his batting and contributed eight fours. The eleven completed their innings in four hours . . .

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

Mr R H Raphael, of Wellington and Magdalen, had the distinction yesterday of scoring the second hundred in this match at Oxford. Mr Raphael is particularly known to racquet players, and last year he was one of the winning pair of the Public Schools' Challenge Cup. He batted in fine style yesterday, and put together 101 by very brilliant hitting in about an hour. The heavy rate of scoring was maintained and the Sixteen were batting the whole day. To-day the Eleven have to make up arrears of exactly 100.

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

Play in this match was continued on Saturday in the Parks at Oxford. The Eleven, who were in a minority of exactly 100 runs at the close of an innings each, began their second venture shortly before 2 o'clock.

Five batsmen were dismissed for 50, after which Messrs Richmond and Boger put on 54. The former, who was missed late in his innings, eventually returned the ball; among his hits were eight fours, two threes and six twos. Mr Wilson played well for 39, in which was a leg-hit for six off Mr Gmelin. The last batsman left at 178. The Sixteen now required 79 to win, and these they obtained in less than [an] hour. From the score appended it will be seen that the Sixteen won by 14 wickets.

16 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3790.html)

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

A team of Gentlemen of England, with Rawlin to assist in the attack, visited Cambridge yesterday, under the captaincy of Mr A J Webbe. It was a day pretty favourable for cricket, and the play proved even and interesting; the former fact was demonstrated, too, by the manner in which the runs were distributed among the members of the sides.

Cambridge had first innings and were not disposed of until nearly half-past 3. Mr Cooper batted with great patience and occupied about an hour in compiling 14. In Mr Weigall's vigorous 30 were five fours, while Mr Streatfeild obtained a five, but subsequently had an escape. Messrs Bromley-Davenport and Gay put on 38 for the last wicket.

When the Gentlemen went in the first partnership promised trouble for the Light Blues, and 34 were scored in nine overs. Subsequently Messrs Hewett and Webbe put together 25 for the fourth wicket, but after the former's dismissal by a catch at slip the innings rapidly ended. Mr Gay, the home wicket-keeper, did not give one "extra."

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 May, page 11)

At Cambridge yesterday the interest in this match was well sustained by the fine cricket and the stoutness of the contest. Each side completed an innings on Monday, and Cambridge were left with an advantage of 28.

They entered upon their second venture at 11.45 yesterday, but the opening was unpromising, and the brothers Douglas and Mr Cooper were soon dismissed. Mr Weigall, however, improved the state of affairs and received great assistance from Messrs Jackson and Wells. With the latter he put on 57 for the [fifth] wicket, and he had scored 69 in an hour and three-quarters before Mr Woods bowled him. Among his contributions were a five, seven fours, two threes and six twos. Mr Bromley-Davenport again batted vigorously, and for the fourth time within a week remained not out.

The Gentlemen required 229 for victory. The first 100 was scored in the hour. Mr Hewett obtained his 61 in 70 minutes, making eight fours, four threes and seven twos. To-day the Gentlemen have 50 more to get to win; but Rawlin, who strained himself yesterday, may not be able to go in, so in that case there will be only four wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 19 May, page 6)

When stumps were drawn at Cambridge on Tuesday evening the Gentlemen, with five wickets down in their second innings, required 50 runs for victory, so that there was some prospect of a good finish. It will be seen, however, that the Gentlemen gained the victory by four wickets.

16 May: LORD SHEFFIELD'S XI v THE REST

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3791.html)

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

The success which attended Lord Sheffield's team in Australia, coupled with the fact that their doings are pretty fresh in the memories of the cricket public, caused their fixture against the Rest of England to be particularly attractive. It was begun yesterday at Nottingham, and the proceeds are to be set aside for the benefit of Alfred Shaw, one of the county's oldest supporters.

Twenty-eight years have elapsed since Shaw first appeared at Trent-bridge, when he played for Nottinghamshire against Kent. Although at the beginning of his career he was an excellent bat, his achievements with the ball are those by which he has made so great a reputation. For many seasons it was taken for granted that "Shaw and Morley started the bowling for Nottinghamshire." Shaw's striking successes as a bowler are too numerous to mention; but it may be mentioned that in 1874, playing for the Marylebone Club against the North, he was creditable with the whole of the wickets, and ten years later, playing for Nottinghamshire against Gloucestershire, he accomplished the "hat trick" in each innings, which is probably the best on record in an important match. Shaw has taken a prominent part in the visits of English cricketers to Australia, and has only just returned with the team which played yesterday.

The weather was unfortunately not very genial, yet the attendance was large in the morning and improved in the afternoon. Mr J A Dixon, the Nottinghamshire captain, took the place of Mr W W Read for the Rest of England, while Messrs O G Radcliffe and H Philipson stood out of the other eleven.

Having won the toss, Lord Sheffield's team began batting at 12.25 on a slow wicket. The Rest of England began batting at half-past 4, and at 20 minutes to 6 rain stopped play for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 May, page 11)

On the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, there were about 3,000 people to witness the second day's play in this match. Shaw, for whose benefit the contest was arranged, is most unfortunate in the matter of weather, as rain considerably interfered with the game. On Monday evening Lord Sheffield's side were all out for 89, and one of their opponents' wickets was lost for 45.

Yesterday a shower delayed the play until a quarter to 1. Gunn and Chatterton (the not-outs with 32 and 9) were then opposed by Attewell and Peel. The ground was slow. Seven were added when Gunn was caught at extra slip; he had been batting an hour and a quarter for his 37. Mr O'Brien came, and after a dangerous hit in the slips (the ball going close to Maurice Read) he made a fine drive for four. This, however, he did not improve upon much, as at 67 he played on. Rain now stopped the game for 25 minutes.

Mr Dixon came, but with the addition of nine a further downfall caused another retreat to the pavilion. A renewal was not made until ten minutes to 3, when the weather was still unfavourable and the turf slippery. Indeed, the bowlers could get little work on the ball. Chatterton played with caution, but Mr Dixon hit vigorously, cutting and driving well. The 100 was signalled at ten minutes past 3. Eight runs later rain caused a further cessation for 50 minutes.

Lohmann and Attewell then had charge of the attack, but the wet ball and the soft ground placed them and the rest of the field at a disadvantage. With the total at 139 Briggs relieved Attewell, and in his second over he bowled Chatterton's leg stump; this batsman had been in for three hours and ten minutes for three fours, five threes, two twos &c. Mr Marchant (who is the captain of the Eleven) arrived, but a catch at slip soon dismissed him and five wickets were down for 149. Flowers joined Mr Dixon, who was heartily cheered on his completing 50. These batsmen remained together until the close of the day . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 19 May, page 6)

Yesterday the concluding day's play in this match on the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, furnished better cricket than that of its two predecessors. Rain, however, interfered with the game more than once, and at half-past 5 the match was left drawn.

16 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3792.html)

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

At Lord's yesterday there was a fairly numerous company present to witness this match. Lord Hawke won the toss and went in with Hall. Pougher and Burton bowled.

A catch at short-slip dismissed Hall for a single, but Lord Hawke batted freely for a little time. When 30 had been registered he fell to a one-handed catch at slip. Ulyett and Mr Sellers were now partners. Ulyett played well for some time. At 53 Hearne superseded Pougher and soon proved successful. He clean bowled Ulyett, Brown, Mr Sellers and Wardall, causing six wickets to be down for 78, while four runs later Tunnicliffe was also bowled. Wainwright and Fletcher took the score to 110, when the former was dismissed, and Hunter retired, clean bowled, at the same total. An unexpected stand for the last wicket was made by Fletcher and Hirst, who put on 42 runs before a catch at point disposed of Hirst at 3.20. A Hearne was credited with six wickets for 34 runs and Burton with three for 30.

The first ball of the Marylebone innings (sent down by Wainwright) Mr Foley played under and slip secured it. A Hearne and Barnes were next together, and both grew busy. The Nottingham player batted freely, and although several changes of bowling were tried he ran up 50 in about an hour. Hearne also did well, but at 87 was clean bowled, while the first ball sent him proved disastrous to Mr Gibson. Pougher came in and the 100 was reached at 5 o'clock. A dozen runs later Barnes was bowled; he had been batting for an hour and a half for one six (four from an overthrow), six fours, one three, six twos &c. Four for 112.

Davidson left at 121, and a catch at wicket disposed of Pougher for an addition 14 runs. Fletcher went on for Tunnicliffe at 144, and secured the remaining four wickets in two overs. Having dismissed Mr Napier, he accomplished the "hat trick" by causing Geeson to be caught at wicket with the last ball of the same over, and with the first two balls of his next he bowled Board and Burton. Total, 144.

With eight runs in hand Yorkshire started their second venture . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 May, page 11)

Yorkshire continued their batting yesterday at Lord's. Brown (the not out with 14) only added three when he obstructed his wicket. Lord Hawke and Ulyett were now opposed by A Hearne and Burton. The former bowler was cut twice to the boundary from successive balls by the Yorkshire captain. A catch in the long field dismissed Ulyett, and Fletcher arrived. Lord Hawke brought the score to 50 with a straight drive for four; but Pougher, having relieved A Hearne, caused him to play on. Half the wickets, 64 runs.

Mr Sellers and Fletcher were now together. The latter made 16 by four drives, but at 85 he was clean bowled, and without alteration in the total Tunnicliffe was caught behind the bowler. The 100 was completed at five minutes to 1. Ten runs later Wainwright was bowled, and Hirst joined Mr Sellers. Although the attack underwent several changes 52 runs were added before Mr Sellers had the ill-luck to play on. Hirst, who batted exceedingly well for 43, remained unconquered. Total,

188.

Marylebone, who had 197 set them to win, began badly by losing Mr Foley before a run was made. Barnes and Hearne were now associated. The latter soon escaped being run out. The first 20 were made at a rate of a run every two minutes. Barnes was missed by Ulyett at point when he had scored 25. After this the Nottinghamshire batsman hit with great freedom. The first hour produced 54. No fewer than six bowling changes were adopted before Barnes fell to a catch at wicket; he had been batting an hour and 40 minutes for nine fours, three threes, five twos &c. Two for 99.

Mr Gibson put together 34 in half an hour, and Hearne, who had been in two hours and a quarter for the same number of runs, was bowled in the next over. Pougher was dismissed at 163. Mr Napier rapidly ran up 33, but was secured in the slips when his side were within three runs of victory. Mr Hillyard came, and at 10 minutes past 6 Davidson made the winning hit. Taken altogether it was an excellent day's cricket. From the score it will be seen that Marylebone won by four wickets.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128121.html)

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

This match was begun a Kennington Oval yesterday. The spectators saw plenty of lively cricket, as nearly 400 runs were scored between 12 and half-past 6.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 May, page 11)

The level nature of Monday's cricket gave way yesterday to much unevenness, and the probabilities of a good fight by Essex were rapidly dispelled under the vigorous batting of the home side at Kennington Oval. Eventually Surrey won by 195 runs.

16 May: CHESHIRE v LANCASHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128134.html)

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

Play in this match began yesterday at Nantwich. Lancashire went in first, but rain stopped the game at a quarter to 5 . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 18 May, page 11)

Play in this match was continued yesterday at Nantwich. Cheshire were ultimately beaten by an innings and 34 runs. Watson, in all, took 15 wickets for 68.

19 May: LANCASHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3793.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 May, page 11)

This match is the first engagement of the season between leading counties. Neither Mr W Newham nor Mr C A Smith was included in the Sussex eleven. Some brilliant play was shown by Lancashire when they went in a second time. Sugg and Ward ran up 97 in 55 minutes before they were parted.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 May, page 14)

Yesterday the turf at Old Trafford, Manchester, was so seriously affected by the heavy rain that play in this match could not be continued until 20 minutes to 3. On the previous day Lancashire, who were 17 behind at the close of an innings each, had lost four wickets in their second venture for 131. A little over an hour's play sufficed to obtain the six outstanding wickets for an addition of 75, Briggs and Baker hitting freely. Total 206.

Sussex now required 190 for victory. Marlow and Bean started the batting well by getting 33 in an hour before the fall of the first wicket. After this the others did little, and nine batsmen were dismissed for an addition of 44. From the full score appended it will be seen that Lancashire won by 112 runs.

19 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarhive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3794.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 May, page 11)

The season at headquarters so far as it has proceeded has been an unbroken record for Marylebone, who have defeated Sussex, Lancashire, Derbyshire and Yorkshire. Yesterday they began their annual match at Lord's against Nottinghamshire.

Lord Hawke won the toss and went in with A Hearne. The bowling was intrusted to Attewell and Flowers. The latter was instrumental in causing A Hearne to be caught at point and Lord Hawke at slip. Mr Murdoch and Chatterton were now partners, but after 20 minutes' play rain stopped the game. It was not resumed until nearly 3 o'clock.

For a little time the run-getting was slow, but then Chatterton made a cut to the boundary and Mr Murdoch hit Flowers finely to square-leg for four. At 22, the last-named gave way to Wilkinson, from whom each batsman made hits to the ring. Bagguley relieved Attewell at 37, and ten runs later Barnes superseded Wilkinson. The former change proved disastrous to Mr Murdoch – bowled leg stump; he had been batting an hour and 40 minutes for his 28. Chatterton did not long survive – caught at slip. Four for 56.

Messrs Wright and Foley soon caused changes in the attack. The latter made a fine on-drive for four, but at 78 a catch at wicket dismissed him, and Mr Gibson was disposed of in a similar way. J T Hearne appeared and hit in a determined manner, scoring 23 out of the 25 added while he was in. At 118 he fell to a catch at mid-off, and Whitehead was bowled scoreless. Mr Wright, who had been batting an hour and a quarter for 23, played the ball into slip's hands. Martin and Whiteside remained together until stumps were drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 May, page 14)

Little progress was made in this match at Lord's on Thursday owing to rain. This was compensated for yesterday, however, by a full day's cricket. On the previous evening Marylebone had lost nine batsmen for 141. At half-past 11 the game was resumed. Whiteside drove the first ball sent him to the off for four, but the second clean bowled him. Total, 145.

Shrewsbury and Mr Dixon opened the Nottinghamshire batting to the attacks of A Hearne and Martin. The first-named made a lucky hit through the slips for three and sent a ball to square-leg for four. He was clean bowled at 26. Barnes, who is batting in capital form this season, made two fours from successive balls of Martin's. That bowler then hurt his hand in trying to stop a hard drive from the same batsman. He kept on until he had caused the dismissal of Mr Dixon, who was cleverly caught at mid-off. Martin then had a substitute to field for him.

Flowers joined Barnes, and the bowling was again changed. The latter twice cut J Hearne to the boundary, but at 82 the newcomer was bowled. Barnes continued to bat in a most determined manner. Attewell caused the 100 to be completed at 25 minutes to 2. Thirteen runs later Barnes was clean bowled; his chief hits were eight fours and six twos. Mr Redgate came in, and at the interval the total had reached 121. Afterwards Martin reappeared in the field. Attewell batted well for a few overs, but when 23 were added he was secured by cover-point. Five for 144. The

remaining half of the wickets did not average nine runs each, the last falling at 187.

Marylebone, who were 42 behind, started their batting a few minutes before 5 o'clock. They opened in a pitiable manner. Mr Murdoch, Lord Hawke and Mr Wright were all bowled in the order named for seven runs. Mr Foley was easily caught at cover-point. Chatterton and Mr Gibson were now together and, in spite of bowling changes, they played out time . . .

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

There seemed every probability at the close of Friday's play in this match at Lord's that Marylebone's successes were to receive a check. Each side had then completed an innings, and the home team, in a minority of 42 runs, had lost four wickets for 76 runs.

Play was continued on Saturday at half-past 11. Chatterton and Mr Gibson (not out 44 and 12) faced the bowling of Attewell and Flowers. Chatterton fell to a catch at slip, and Mr Gibson was bowled for an addition of four only. Their partnership had yielded 55 runs. A and J T Hearne batted well for a few overs until the former was secured at wicket and the latter by long-field-on. Eight for 103. Whitehead and Whiteside put on 27 runs, when a smart catch at wicket dismissed the latter, but it was not until 146 runs had been recorded that Martin was secured at slip.

Nottinghamshire now required 105 to win, or 82 runs less than the number gained by them in their opening venture. Shrewsbury and Moss were first in, but the latter went for a single. Barnes appeared, and the bowling of J T Hearne and Martin was successfully opposed for a while. At 28, however, a catch at mid-on disposed of Shrewsbury, while Armstrong was clean bowled two runs subsequently. The county had yet seven wickets in hand and 75 left them to obtain for victory.

The form shown by the defending side was anything but assuring. Barnes obstructed his wicket at 39, and Flowers and Mr Dixon were both bowled. Six for 47. Attewell and Mr Redgate played with commendable caution and caused an alteration in the bowling to be made at 69, when Chatterton superseded Martin. This proved disastrous to Attewell, who returned the ball. Martin resumed in place of Chatterton, but it was left to J T Hearne to secure the wickets. He clean bowled Wilkinson and Bagguley with consecutive balls, and when Sherwin, the last man, joined Mr Redgate, there were yet 27 runs wanted. For a few overs there appeared some likelihood of these being obtained. A dozen runs were made by them; but then Sherwin was clean bowled. Total 90.

Thus Marylebone gained their fifth successive victory by 14 runs, and Nottinghamshire lost their first match of the season. As will be seen, J T Hearne's bowling proved very effective.

19 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3795.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 May, page 11)

A fine team was got up by Mr A J Webbe to represent the Gentlemen of England yesterday against the University Twelve at Oxford. The visitors were successful in the toss and Messrs O'Brien and Hewett faced the attacks of Messrs Berkeley and Fry.

The first-named batsman monopolized most of the run-getting and hit with great dash, obtaining 36 out of the 38 registered when he was caught at slip. Messrs Hewett and Thesiger both batted with such vigour that, although the bowling was varied, they took the total to 76 after 40 minutes' play before Mr Hewett's dismissal. A catch at slip disposed of Mr Forster at 93, and Mr M'Gregor came in. The first 100 runs were obtained at the rapid rate of two a minute. After this the scoring slackened a little, and at luncheon seven wickets were down for 159.

Subsequently Messrs Philipson and Woods hit freely. The 200 was completed at 3.30. Mr Philipson left at 225. Mr Woods was the tenth to go, playing a ball on. The innings realized 260. Messrs Jones and Phillips began the Oxford batting . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 May, page 14)

On the opening day of this match, played in the Parks at Oxford, the Gentlemen of England had put together the fine total of 260, while the University had only lost two wickets for 84 runs. Thus, when play was continued yesterday there seemed every prospect of an interesting contest.

Messrs Phillips and Palairret (not outs 36 and 23) batted freely and the 100 was registered at 25 minutes past 12. Directly afterwards Mr Phillips played on; his 48 included six fours. Mr Palairret was next to leave – clean bowled at 130; he had hit two sixes and seven fours. Mr Woods then bowled with such effect that the seven remaining wickets yielded only 42 runs. Total 172.

In a minority of 88 Oxford followed on, and once more Mr Woods gained a series of bowling triumphs. Not one batsman reached 20 and the whole of them were dismissed for 122. England had 35 left them to win, in getting which they only lost one batsman. Thus, as will be seen from the score, the University were beaten by ten wickets.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/125/125266.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 May, page 11)

Richardson's excellent bowling against Essex at the beginning of the week secured for him yesterday a trial with Surrey's most powerful eleven. Except Lockwood the Surrey team was the same as that which secured the great victories of last year. The weather considerably spoiled the enjoyment of the cricket at the Oval.

Surrey were fortunate to win the toss. The early batsmen proved fairly successful, and three wickets yielded 96 runs. Matters now turned in favour of the fielding side, and the record was only 107 when Brockwell was the seventh to leave. Wood and Henderson made a capital stand, but at 137 their partnership was interrupted by a heavy downpour. However, before they were finally separated, the figures were raised to 171. The innings quickly afterwards ended. Henderson hit three fours, two threes and six twos, and Wood one five, two fours, four threes and three twos. Leicestershire went in at a quarter to 6 . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 May, page 14)

Some fine fast bowling by Richardson for Surrey was perhaps the best point in yesterday's cricket at Kennington Oval, where Surrey won their second match of the season. Occasionally there was a prospect of an even game, but in the end the visitors were most severely beaten. Surrey won by 155 runs. Richardson had the remarkable analysis of five wickets for 11 runs.

19 May: YORKSHIRE v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/113/113433.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 20 May, page 11)

Play in this match began yesterday at Dewsbury. Essex were first placed on their defence. Mr Johnston made more than half the number of runs obtained from the bat, in which were five fours and two threes. The last wicket fell for exactly 100. Ulyett and Wainwright both did well for Yorkshire.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 21 May, page 14)

With the exception of Burns and Mr Owen the Essex team, at Dewsbury, yesterday, could make little headway in their second venture against the attacks of Wainwright and Peel, and they were ultimately beaten by eight wickets.

23 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3796.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 24 May, page 11)

It cannot be said that the team sent from headquarters to Cambridge yesterday was of a calibre [severely to] test the capacity of the University eleven. Mr Martin-Scott and the Hon M G Tollemache were included in the home side in lieu of Messrs R N Douglas and E C Streatfeild, who were at the Tripos examinations.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 25 May, page 11)

The visiting team at Cambridge yesterday proved quite unable to cope with the University eleven, who the previous day had amassed 351 runs for an innings. Two Marylebone wickets were down for 53, and at ten minutes to 12 Messrs Foley and Leese (not-outs 2 and 29) continued their batting. Messrs Jackson and Bromley-Davenport were the bowlers.

A catch at slip speedily dismissed Mr Foley, while Burns and Mr Leatham were soon bowled by the Light Blue captain. Mr Heseltine and Mr Foljambe did little to aid their side. Mr Leese batted well for his 44, in which were six fours, two threes and three twos. Martin hit with unwonted vigour and ran up 54 runs in an hour, these comprising six fours, three threes, eight twos and five singles. The innings closed at a quarter-past 1 for 151.

Marylebone, who were precisely 200 behind, of course followed on. A determined stand was made by Mr Wright and Burns, and their partnership yielded 64. The latter was eventually taken in the slips, and among his hits were nine fours, a three and six twos. The visitors were all out for 139, and thus Cambridge were the winners by an innings and 61 runs. Mr Jackson, the University captain, who batted so well on Monday, did good service with the ball.

23 May: MARRIED v SINGLE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3797.html)

Monday 23 May, page 10

This match, which the Marylebone Club have allotted for the benefit of R Clayton, will begin to-day at Lord's. Clayton has for 20 years been engaged on the "Ground" staff at headquarters, and in the earlier part of his career did good service for his county, Yorkshire, as a fast bowler. The sides, which include the leading cricketers of the day, are as follows: . . .

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 24 May, page 11)

Great disappointment was felt at Lord's yesterday that Dr W G Grace did not form part of the Married eleven. On the previous occasion (21 years ago) when the Married were opposed by the Singles Dr W G Grace carried his bat throughout the innings for 189. The game was played for the benefit of Edgar Willsher, the Kentish professional. There was a very large company on the ground . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 25 May, page 11)

There was a large company at Lord's yesterday to witness the continuation of this match, played for the benefit of R Clayton. Maurice Read and Mr M'Gregor (not-outs 29 and 3) resumed the batting on behalf of the Single. Barnes and Attewell bowled.

Mr M'Gregor was soon dismissed, and at 100 Mr Kemp retired, clean bowled. Read was the fifth to leave, caught at slip. Mr Dixon went next – caught at wicket – and Mr Redgate was served in the same manner. Seven for 172. Henderson joined Lohmann, who batted with great freedom, and a drive to the off boundary by him caused the 200 to be signalled. Chatterton relieved Barnes at 243, and in his first over Lohmann was dismissed by a fine right-handed catch in front of the pavilion rails. Davidson did little, and J T Hearne joined Henderson. The bowling underwent several changes, but both batsmen hit with confidence. Hearne fell to a catch in the slips. Henderson, who had hit freely, carried out his bat; his chief figures were seven fours, two threes and five twos. Total 296, towards which number the three Surrey members of the eleven had contributed 169.

The Married team, who were 66 runs behind, started their second attempt with Chatterton and Abel, who faced the attacks of J T Hearne and Lohmann . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 26 May, page 10)

There was a numerous company at Lord's yesterday to witness the conclusion of this match. The Married, who had started their second venture in a minority of 66 runs, had, on Tuesday evening, lost six wickets for 136. Briggs (the not-out with 28) had Gunn for a companion. Hearne and Lohmann led the attack.

At 156 Davidson went on for Lohmann, who crossed over. The Surrey man's first ball proved disastrous to Briggs – bowled off stump. Mr Hornby came, and Hearne relieved Davidson. Gunn

was out lbw. The last two wickets added 16 runs, the innings closing for 184 at 10 minutes to 1. During the morning Lohmann had taken four wickets for 18 runs.

The bachelors now wanted 119 for victory. Their start, however, was most dispiriting, as Shrewsbury, Maurice Read and Mr Kemp were all bowled for nine runs. Messrs Stoddart and Dixon were now opposed by Attewell and Pougher. The hitting of the first-named was most determined, and at 34 Chatterton was tried. His first over was treated in a very free style by Mr Stoddart, who made 12 in it by an on-drive and two cuts, the Middlesex player being credited with 46 out of the first 52 runs registered. Briggs now superseded Attewell, who went on at the pavilion end. No separation had, however, been effected at the interval, when the total was 62.

Attewell, who had bowled the last over before luncheon, crossed and sent down the first one afterwards, thus infringing law 14. No mention was made of it, however, until too late. Hearne was put on at the other end, and caused Mr Stoddart to be secured at mid-off; he had been batting an hour, his hits including seven fours, a three, five twos &c. Messrs Dixon and Redgate caused the attack to be thrice varied; but the 100 was reached at 3.35. Eight runs later, however, Mr Dixon was bowled. Lohmann came, and after a little steady play made the winning hit, the Married team thus being beaten by five wickets.

23 May: YORKSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3798.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 24 May, page 11)

Sussex began their second match in the north of England at Bramall-lane, Sheffield, yesterday. Sussex won the toss, and going in made an unpromising start against the bowling of Peel and Wainwright.

Bean and Marlow opened the batting, and the former was speedily out, while Hide left at 12. Matters greatly improved during the partnership of Marlow and Mr Brann. Wainwright, who had given way to Fletcher, resumed bowling, and eventually brought about the dismissal of Mr Brann – leg-before. Mr Wilson and Marlow gave the bowlers further trouble before the amateur was caught. Four for 141 placed the visitors in a good position, but this the later batsmen failed to maintain against the fine bowling of Wainwright. Marlow's excellent innings was closed at 147. Among his contributions were four fours, five threes and six twos. Altogether the last six batsmen were disposed of at an average of only five runs each.

On a wicket that assisted the bowlers Yorkshire offered a feeble resistance to the excellent attacks and fielding of the visitors, and were all out in an hour and a half for 81. Following on, with arrears of 90, Yorkshire lost two good men before the drawing of stumps.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 25 May, page 11)

The match between Yorkshire and Sussex at the Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, was concluded yesterday. Monday evening left things in a very gloomy state for Yorkshire, who had followed on against a majority of 90 and had lost two such wickets as those of Hall and Peel for 11 runs. But yesterday fortune veered completely round, and Yorkshire won the match.

Wainwright can certainly be described as the hero of the match. On the opening day his analysis of seven wickets for 66 runs furnished the sole brightness in the home cricket; yesterday he played an innings of 104 and secured four more wickets.

When the game was continued yesterday morning Lord Hawke proved a useful partner for Wainwright. In three-quarters of an hour 71 runs were added. Bean now bowled so effectively that the chances of a victory for Sussex became exceedingly probable; in the course of a few overs he dismissed Lord Hawke, Ulyett and Mr Sellers. Wainwright, however, had been scoring rapidly, and when Mounsey arrived a further determined stand was made. The former, who had gone in first wicket down at two, was sixth to leave – bowled at 197. The innings closed at 3 o'clock for 226.

Sussex now required 137 for victory, but Wainwright dismissed three of the side for 22. When Hirst, the new fast bowler, was put on at 51 he met with such success that in ten overs six wickets fell to him for 16 runs. Sussex were all out in an hour and a half, and Yorkshire won by 40 runs.

23 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY – MR L C H PALAIRET’S TEAM v MR T B CASE’S TEAM

(Potted scores) Mr Palairet’s Team 258 (R W Rice 45, F A Phillips 30, L C H Palairet 39, G R Wood 32, F Leveson-Gower 52; C B Fry 8 wkts) and 65/3 (L C H Palairet 44). Mr T B Case’s XI 249 (H D Watson 60, A M Taberer 60, W S Case 42; J B Wood 4 wkts, G R Wilson 4 wkts).
Match drawn.

Day 1 (no report or scorecard from Tuesday 24 May, page 11)

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 25 May, page 11)

This match, in which the chief cricketers at the University took part, was commenced at Oxford on Monday and left drawn yesterday.

26 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3799.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 May, page 11)

The match was begun at Cambridge yesterday. Messrs Leese and Pope, in the Cambridge eleven, took the places of Messrs R N Douglas and E C Streatfeild, [who] were again unavoidably absent.

Heavy rain had fallen in the early hours of the morning. Lord Hawke, who won the toss, therefore put Cambridge in. The wickets fell somewhat rapidly, and the score at luncheon time was six for 79. Mr Jephson, who made a good innings, was caught soon afterwards. A fine stand was made by Messrs Hill and Bromley-Davenport.

Yorkshire had an hour and a quarter's batting, of which the chief feature was the fine form of Lord Hawke, who was dismissed by the last ball of the day. Mr Bromley-Davenport injured his hand in stopping a hard return and was obliged to retire.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 May, page 9)

At Cambridge yesterday the visitors did not do so well as might have been expected, and in an hour and a half the whole of the other batsmen were disposed of for an addition of 79. Peel played excellently for 45, in which were two fours, six threes and five twos.

When Cambridge went in a second time the wicket had become much more difficult, and although two or three of the side endeavoured to force the game only 100 runs had been made when the last wicket fell.

Thus Yorkshire were left with 135 to obtain for victory. Lord Hawke again batted vigorously, while Hall and Ulyett also met with success. In an hour and 25 minutes 113 runs were made, and the time for play was extended in order to finish the match, which Yorkshire won by seven wickets.

26 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3800.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 May, page 11)

In this match, at Lord's, yesterday, the Kent eleven was only a moderate one, and they had to face a particularly powerful team. The day opened fine, but the wicket bore signs of the night's storm, and the county's innings closed for only 77. J T Hearne and Pougher both bowled well.

After luncheon rain delayed the start of the Marylebone innings until 3.25, and by that time the wicket was so wet as to favour the batsmen. Mr Stoddart ran up his 52 in 40 minutes. He was missed at slip. He hit eight fours.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 May, page 9)

At Lord's yesterday Marylebone won by an innings and 53 runs, thus scoring their sixth consecutive victory at Lord's. They have beaten all the five leading counties who visit headquarters this season – viz., Sussex, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Kent.

26 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SUSSEX

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

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 May, page 11)

This match was begun at Trent-bridge yesterday. Rain stopped the play at half-past 4 . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 May, page 9)

On a slow wicket at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, Sussex went on with their innings, the early part of which was characterized by the free batting of Bean, who had made 25 out of 33, when he was caught. Marlow was fifth to leave, at 73 – caught at slip for a steady 25. Rain delayed further play until half-past 3, when Sussex were rapidly got out, the innings closing for 101.

Nottinghamshire in their second innings found the wicket difficult, and they were steadily dismissed. Shrewsbury was in an hour, being fifth to leave at 52. At the drawing of stumps the home side, with two wickets in hand, were 128 runs on, so that a good finish may probably be witnessed to-day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 30 April, page 10)

From start to finish this was a bowler's match. On Friday night the home side, with two batsmen in hand, were 128 runs ahead. The innings closed in 20 minutes for the addition of ten, and then Sussex went in with 139 runs to make to win.

Against the bowling of Attewell and Flowers wickets fell rapidly. Mr Brann and Bean were out for three runs and, although Mr Wilson showed some driving power, the figures were only 36 when the eighth wicket fell. Some vigorous batting was shown by Butt, who made 32. Eventually Nottinghamshire won by 63 runs.

26 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3802.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 May, page 11)

With few exceptions the bowlers had the better of the cricket in this match at Oxford yesterday. Lancashire lost the toss, and soon after 12 o'clock they entered the field; the weather was fine but the rain had left the wicket slow. The Dark Blues started badly, their captain being bowled before he had scored. Mr Fry made a fine innings; his 50 included five fours and two threes.

The Lancashire innings furnished capital batting by Sugg and good fielding and bowling by the University. Oxford, who held a lead of 44, went in a second time . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 May, page 9)

A very exciting finish was witnessed in this match at Oxford last evening, when the Dark Blues managed to win by the narrow margin of seven runs. In consequence of the wet conditions of the turf play was not resumed until 20 minutes to 1.

After Mr Brain had gone Mr Palairet, the home captain, alone seemed able [successfully to] oppose the bowling of Briggs. He batted brilliantly, and was seventh [eighth?] out to a great catch in the long field by Sugg at 93. He was in an hour and a half and made three sixes, four fours, two threes and four twos. The last batsman left at 3.20, the record standing at 105. Briggs had taken 12 wickets in the game for 66 runs.

Lancashire went in to get 150 for victory. The score reached 87 for the loss of four batsmen, but at five [?] were out and the match seemed pretty even. Then came a stand by Mr Crosfield and Baker, and this was so successful that Oxford's chance of victory grew rapidly small. However, at 123, Mr Wilson, from third man, dextrously ran out Mr Crosfield. The struggle was now keen, but the University finally triumphed.

26 May: SURREY v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128122.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 27 May, page 11)

In the match at the Oval yesterday Surrey won the toss and got a substantial advantage on the day's cricket. Surrey made most of their opportunities, and in the early part of the day the brilliant batting of Lockwood lent great attraction to the play. Abel, too, met with some success. Henderson proved a most useful partner and stayed while 60 runs were added.

Then at 164 Lockwood was seventh to leave, leg before wicket. He had been in two-and-a-quarter hours and had scored 83 without a mistake; his chief hits were one five, 12 fours, three threes and five twos. Surrey occupied some three-and-a-quarter hours in putting together their 201.

With the pitch in every way helping the bowlers, Warwickshire had not a cheerful game to play. However, they made the best of the bad conditions, and Mr Bainbridge and Shilton threw some spirit into the defence. The former was out to a remarkably good catch at point, after which the batsmen left rapidly.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 28 May, page 9)

Yesterday's cricket at Kennington Oval furnished a series of bowling triumphs for Surrey, who won by an innings and 59 runs. Lohmann's 12 wickets averaged less than seven runs each, while Lockwood took seven wickets for 18 runs.

30 May: MIDDLESEX v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3803.html)

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

At Lord's yesterday fine cricketing weather was experienced and there was a large company present. Sussex brought with them an unpleasing record from the north, where they had thrice suffered defeat, so that the spirited manner of yesterday's start in some way revived their friends.

Aided by the kindness of the Middlesex field (Bean was four times missed) the visitors had 70 up with only one wicket down. But disasters now overtook Sussex with startling rapidity. Bean, in playing forward to a short pitched ball, was clean bowled, and was the fourth to leave at 79. Eight wickets fell for 95, and then Guttridge, having been let off by Mr O'Brien at point and by Mr Lucas in the long field, batted with great success. He made many boundary hits and, with the assistance of Butt and Tate, put on 50 runs for the last two wickets. Phillips bowled effectively. Both Guttridge's chances were given from that bowler; but much earlier three catches (all from Bean) were missed off Hearne.

Middlesex went in. Mr Stoddart's stay was brief, after which Mr Webbe and Mr Scott raised the score to 54 in 40 minutes. Then Tate quickly bowled the Middlesex captain and Mr O'Brien. The company had yet to see the best batting of the day. Between 4.40 and 6 o'clock Mr Scott and Rawlin scored 105 runs. The former, who had gone in first wicket down, was then cleverly stumped. He made his 86 in two hours, and his chief figures were 12 fours, four threes and a two.

Rawlin, was dismissed sixth, at 181; his 49 included seven fours. The running out of Mr de Paravicini furnished a noteworthy incident of the closing overs; he had started for a sharp run off Humphreys's bowling, and Bean, from mid-on, threw down the wicket. At the end of the day the Middlesex advantage was not so great as at one time seemed probable.

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

At Lord's yesterday there was again a large attendance. Middlesex, who had finished on Monday evening with a lead of 47 and three wickets in hand, resumed batting at 11.35. In half an hour the innings closed for an addition of 43.

Sussex went in with arrears of 90, and in a little over three hours the innings was over for 164. Middlesex wanted 75 to win. This number was easily gained, and victory rested with Middlesex by nine wickets.

30 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v SURREY

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

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

On the Christ Church Ground, Oxford, yesterday, the powerful Surrey eleven appeared against the University side, when there was a numerous company present. Mr Shuter won the toss and went in with Abel. Against the bowling of Messrs Palairet and Berkeley the county at the outset fared anything but well. A catch at extra mid-off soon dismissed the Surrey captain, and at 40 Abel sent the ball into the hands of cover point, while Lohmann and Mr Read were soon out. Four for 48.

Now came a stand of more than an hour's duration by Lockwood and Henderson, who put on 98 runs before the latter returned the ball. Mr Key stayed while 82 were obtained, and then at 229 Lockwood was seventh to leave – bowled. He had gone in third wicket down at 48 and in two hours made 102 out of 181 added during his stay. He scored four drives over the ring for six each and also contributed 13 fours and four twos. Nine men were dismissed for 254, but Wood and Sharpe put on 86 for the last wicket. Wood hit seven fours, a three and seven twos. The innings closed for 340.

Oxford were left with rather more than three-quarters of an hour to play, and in this time they lost one wicket for 45.

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

After a long day's fielding on Monday the Oxford eleven were left yesterday at the Christ Church ground to play an uphill game. Messrs Case and Jones went on with the Oxford innings, in which one wicket had fallen for 45, at a quarter to 12. Lohmann and Sharpe were the bowlers. When only eight runs had been added a ball from Sharpe took Mr Case's wicket. Messrs Palairet, Jones and Fry met with some success, but Sharpe and Lockwood bowled so effectively that the whole side was out for 163.

When the Dark Blues followed on Messrs Palairet and Jones batted brilliantly and scored 83 in a little more than three-quarters of an hour; but in an hour and 50 minutes the last nine wickets fell for only 45, and Surrey thus won by an innings and 49 runs.

30 May: YORKSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/113/113434.html)

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

Yorkshire, who last week defeated Sussex and Cambridge University, began a match with Derbyshire yesterday on the Headingley Ground, Leeds. The home side went in first, and when Hall had been quickly dismissed some capital batting was shown by Lord Hawke and Ulyett. Before luncheon Yorkshire made 98 for the loss of five batsmen. Subsequently 64 were obtained and the innings realized 162.

After a promising start for Derbyshire by Bagshaw and Mr Wright, who registered 35, Hirst took five wickets without having a run scored from him. The figures reached 40 with six men out, and then Davidson and Storer put on 32.

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

On a very treacherous wicket, at the Headingley Ground, Leeds, yesterday, the bowlers carried all before them. Derbyshire, going in against a total of 162, had on Monday night lost eight wickets for 73. The figures were not increased, the first two balls proving effective.

Derbyshire followed on, and in a couple of hours were a second time dismissed, and Yorkshire won by an innings and 43 runs. From the score and analysis appended it will be seen how remarkably effective were the attacks of Hirst and Peel.

30 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY – FIRST TWELVE v NEXT SIXTEEN

(Potted scores) Next Sixteen 182 (E Stogdon 24, E Field 33; J B Pelham 5 wkts) and 363 (T N Perkins 67, V F Leese 58, E Field 29, K S Ranjitsinhji 58, E J Whitting 32, A A Sully 31, A H Marshall 28; E C Streatfeild 5 wkts). First Twelve 154 (P H Latham 42, C G Pope 36; R L Leigh-Clare 4 wkts) and 365/7 (R N Douglas 55, J Douglas 92, P H Latham 105, A O Jones 20*). Drawn.

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

Yesterday, at Cambridge, this annual match began. Going in first at a quarter-past 12 the Sixteen kept possession of the wicket until a few minutes after 4 o'clock . . .

Day 2 (scorecard but no report from Wednesday 1 June, page 10)

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

Heavy scoring characterized the closing day's cricket in this match at Cambridge yesterday. Overnight there seemed a prospect of victory for the Sixteen, who with three wickets in hand were 343 ahead. The innings realized 303, and the Twelve went in to make 392 for success.

Messrs R N Douglas and Cooper rapidly put together 54 for the first partnership. The former was eventually out for 55, in which were six fours, five threes and two twos. For the fourth wicket a great stand was made by Messrs J Douglas and P Latham, who added 194 while they were together. Mr Douglas in two and a quarter hours obtained 92 by nine fours, eight threes, five twos &c. Mr Latham's excellent 105 included 13 fours, four threes and nine twos. When play ceased and the match was drawn the Twelve required only 27 to win and had four wickets in hand.

2 June: KENT v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3805.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 3 June, page 11)

This match is among the most attractive of the Kent fixtures, and the Blackheath Club were fortunate in securing it for their ground at the Rectory Field. Middlesex won the toss, and Kent, who had not the whole of their first eleven, had to take the field.

Messrs Webbe and Stoddart opened to the bowling of Martin and Wright, and the latter quickly forced the hitting. He made some fine drives, and 48 had been scored in 40 minutes, when Martin gave way to W W Hearne. This variation was beneficial to the home side, as, after the 50 had gone up in three-quarters of an hour, Mr Stoddart returned the ball – a capital catch. In the course of half an hour Mr Webbe was run out by Rawlin, Mr Scott stumped, Rawlin also run out and Mr O'Brien caught and bowled. These four wickets had fallen for 18 runs, and half the batsmen went for 69.

Messrs Nepean and Lucas remained together and caused further bowling changes; there were various good strokes and some that were indifferent. In an hour and three-quarters the 100 was reached, and then in the course of a few overs Middlesex fared badly. Mr Lucas had his left stump sent down by Martin. Mr Henery and Phillips gave very little trouble, and the record of eight for 112 read favourably for Kent. However, West proved an invaluable partner for Mr Nepean, who had been playing very carefully. The former made many fine drives on both sides of the wicket, and when at last caught at mid-off the figures had been increased by 68; of this number he had in an hour scored 42, included in which were five fours, two threes and three twos. Hearne was soon out and Mr Nepean remained unconquered; in an excellent 47, obtained in two hours, were five fours, three threes and six twos. Time, 5.50; total, 181.

Kent went in for 20 minutes. Mr Davey was badly missed by Mr Henery, and scored 14 in three hits (one a six over the ring).

Day 2 (report from Saturday 4 June, page 11)

Good cricket and fine weather must have been equally appreciated by the company at the Rectory Field, Blackheath, yesterday, when further progress was made with the Kent and Middlesex match. After the heavy rain of Thursday morning and the subsequent play before the wicket had properly dried, it would not have been surprising to find everything favouring the bowlers. But it was otherwise, and the turf recovered in a way very different from the experiences of some former county matches at Blackheath.

Kent, who had gone in for 20 minutes on Thursday night, resumed their batting at 11.35. Mr Knowles was soon bowled, and Hearne also dismissed Mr Davey after the latter had contributed by a vigorous hitting 32 out of the first 45. Messrs Marchant and Le Fleming played excellently, and by cutting and driving rapidly advanced the score to 92. Mr Marchant was bowled and Mr Le Fleming caught at long-slip, while Captain Hamilton, after a short and lively innings, was taken at long-on. Mr Fox showed fine defence, but beyond Hearne no one stayed with him any length of time, and the innings, which lasted two hours and a quarter, closed for 164, thus giving to the visitors an advantage of 17.

At their second attempt Middlesex lost Mr Stoddart (caught at point) and Mr Webbe (caught at slip) for 33 runs. Then came the stand of the day by Messrs Scott and Nepean. The former made the majority of the runs in excellent form, but his companion was very cautious and found every difficulty in scoring. A mistake by the wicket-keeper proved serious to Kent. He let Mr Nepean off when his figures were only three. In spite of many changes in the bowling the score rose steadily, and 100 were added in an hour and three-quarters. Runs came rapidly until Martin was tried at Wright's wicket, and very soon both batsmen went from successive balls – Mr Scott taken at cover-point and Mr Nepean at mid-on.

In an hour and 40 minutes these gentlemen had put on 132 runs. Mr Scott played a very fine innings of 98, in which were nine fours, seven threes and 11 twos; it extended over two hours and a half. Mr Nepean was in a couple of hours for 35. Mr O'Brien afterwards batted vigorously.

Day 3 (report from Monday 6 June, page 11)

The interesting stage at which this game at Blackheath was left on Friday evening promised a thoroughly good Saturday's cricket; the turf had shown no signs of wear and the weather had settled fine, while Middlesex, with four batsmen in hand, were 241 runs ahead.

Resuming at half-past 11, Mr Lucas was joined by Mr Henery, and Martin and W Hearne shared the bowling. The figures rapidly reached 237 (or 254 on) when Mr Lucas and Phillips were dismissed, while 13 runs later Mr Henery sent the ball into the hands of cover-point. A fine catch high up at mid-off got rid of J T Hearne and brought the innings to a close (for 253) at five minutes past 12.

Twenty minutes later Kent entered on the heavy task of obtaining 271 for victory; Mr Knowles and Captain Hamilton were the batsmen who were faced by Rawlin and Phillips. The former bowled Captain Hamilton at 13, and Mr Marchant arrived. Some fine cutting and driving were witnessed. Mr Knowles played very well and there seemed a prospect of a stand, but when J T Hearne superseded Rawlin his fine bowling proved disastrous to the home prospects. In his second over with a very good ball he sent back Mr Marchant at 37, and eight runs later he knocked Mr Fox's middle stump out of the ground. Three for 45.

Messrs Le Fleming and Knowles added 17 for the fourth wicket, and then Kent's reverses began in earnest. Mr Knowles, who had been innings excellently, attempted to cut a good length ball, but got right under it and the result was an easy catch to Mr Scott deep in the slips. Four for 62. Almost immediately Mr Le Fleming was completely beaten by Hearne, and when Rawlin went on at the other end his third ball sent Mr Davey's middle stump down, and in his next over he disposed of Mr Braybrooke. Seven for 67. W Hearne failed to stop a good ball from his namesake, but Martin during a brief stay made several fours and a six (all by driving) from J T Hearne. He was then secured by Rawlin and, Wright being quickly put out, the innings was over at a quarter past 2 for 92. Middlesex thus won by 178 runs.

J T Hearne bowled splendidly and, in spite of the punishment bestowed on him by Martin, his record was remarkable. The spectators who had journeyed to the Rectory-field in the expectation of a fine afternoon's play must have been considerably disappointed at the feebleness of Kent's batting. But it must not be forgotten that Middlesex, with J T Hearne, Phillips and Rawlin all in fine bowling form, are particularly strong, while Kent on this occasion were without Messrs Patterson, Wilson, Kemp and A Hearne.

2 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3806.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 3 June, page 11)

In the Parks at Oxford yesterday a powerful Marylebone Club twelve began a match against the Dark Blues, who, in the absence of Mr R T Jones, gave a trial to Mr Rice, the Freshman from Cardiff.

Oxford took first innings. Against the bowling of Pougher and Flowers three batsmen – Messrs Palairet, Rice and Fry – fell for 33 runs. Mr Phillips played in excellent form and received good assistance from Mr Case, who exercised considerable care in the defence. After Mr Phillips had been taken at mid-off at 65 a fine stand was made by Messrs Case and V T Hill, who put on 91 for the fifth wicket in 70 minutes. Mr Hill was seen to great advantage, and in his 51 were six fours, a three and seven twos. Subsequently Mr Taberer met with success and took out his bat for 37.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 4 June, page 11)

Marylebone fared very much better than might have been expected at Oxford yesterday, when, on a wicket rendered somewhat difficult by the rain, they had to face the score of the University first innings – namely, 222.

The visitors' early batsmen all did pretty well; Mr Balfour aided Chatterton to score 52 for the first wicket and Mr G L Wilson stayed until 80. Barnes and Chatterton then put on 60 in 50 minutes, when the latter was fourth to leave. He had been in two hours, and in his 47 were four fours, six threes and two twos. Subsequently Flowers and Mr Foley played well, and Marylebone in the end exceeded their rivals' score by 18 runs. The innings had occupied just over four hours.

When Oxford went in a second time Flowers and Pougher took every advantage of the treacherous pitch, and so quickly did disasters follow the Dark Blues that ten batsmen were out for 48. Flowers performed the "hat trick" in dismissing Messrs Phillips, Brain and Taberer with successive balls. Messrs Wood and Berkeley made a stand for the last wicket . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 6 June, page 11)

The feeble batting of the Dark Blues in their second venture on Friday afternoon at Oxford left them with only 62 runs on and one wicket to fall. Play was continued on Saturday at ten minutes to 12, when Mr Wood was dismissed by a catch at short-leg from the first ball sent him. Total, 80.

Marylebone now required 63 for victory, and sent in Messrs Vernon and Philipson to start getting them. Messrs Berkeley and Wilson led off the attack. Two drives for four were made by Mr Vernon, who was then bowled. Mr Ricketts arrived, and the score was speedily taken to 23, when Mr Berkeley handed the ball to Mr Palairet. Two cuts for four each were made from the latter change by Mr Ricketts, and at 46 Mr Wood came on. A dozen runs later the last-named batsman was bowled, middle stump. Neither Mr Balfour nor Mr Foley did anything of note. Mr Wilson joined Mr Philipson. The match was then won for the Marylebone Club without further loss by seven wickets.

Messrs R T Jones and V T Hill, seniors, have received their blues, as have also the two Freshmen, Mr C B Fry, Repton, and Mr F A Phillips, Rossall.

2 June: SURREY v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3807.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 3 June, page 11)

The high position now attained by the western county caused their appearance against the powerful Surrey team at the Oval yesterday to be invested with great interest. Surrey were successful with the toss, and at 2 o'clock sent in Abel and Mr Shuter to the bowling of Mr Woods and Tyler.

The home team's disasters were fast and severe – Abel was caught at mid-off from the third ball, Lohmann was finely run out, Mr W W Read played on and a catch in the long-field dismissed Lockwood. These four excellent wickets went for eight runs. Mr Shuter, who was joined by Henderson, was bowled at 20. Mr Key arrived, and the scoring so far improved that the 50 was reached within a few minutes of 3 o'clock. Immediately afterwards, however, Henderson was caught in front of the wicket. Ayres's stay proved brief and, after the attack had been changed, Mr Key was caught by Nichols, the ball having glanced off slip's hand. Brockwell and Sharpe advanced the score to 99, when the latter was clean bowled. Watts, the last man, aided in taking the total to 115, when a catch at long-on dismissed him. The innings had lasted one hour and 50 minutes.

Somerset's start showed no improvement on that of Surrey, as in the first over Mr Fowler was caught at wicket. Mr Hewett and Hale were then opposed by Lohmann and Sharpe. Ten runs were made in an over from the latter, but at 29 Mr Hewett was caught at slip, and when 20 were added Hale was stumped. Three down. The 50 was signalled at 5 o'clock, and then Lockwood relieved Sharpe. In his first over Nichols was caught, and Mr Woods came. The latter soon fell to a capital catch at long slip. Half the wickets were down for 62, and the remaining five only added 17. Surrey, with 36 runs in hand, went in a second time . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 4 June, page 11)

The close of Thursday's play in this match at Kennington Oval left Surrey with a material advantage, as for the loss of a wicket only in their second venture they were 117 runs on. Yesterday Lohmann and Abel (not outs 42 and 22) resumed their batting at half-past 11, and kept triumphantly on for 50 minutes. Mr Woods and Tyler were the bowlers.

The 100 was completed at a quarter to 12, and 11 runs afterwards Nichols relieved Tyler. Abel gave a chance off the new bowler to third man (Mr Fowler), which was let escape, and in the same over he completed his 50. At length Lohmann was easily caught at mid-off. His innings had been characterized by great freedom, and in his 73, which had occupied an hour and 20 minutes, were eight fours, three threes and ten twos. Two for 143. A catch at slip soon dismissed Henderson, and Lockwood came. Abel's long innings (he had been batting two hours and a quarter) was closed by a catch at mid-off; in it were eight fours, three threes and four twos. Four for 176.

Mr W W Read came, but soon lost Lockwood – caught at slip – while he himself obstructed his wicket. Mr Key and Ayres caused the 200 to be recorded at 2.20. Mr Woods went on for a couple of overs in which 18 were scored, and 15 of these from Mr Key's bat. The bowling was then shared by Nichols and Hale, and from the latter Ayres fell to a catch at slip. Mr Shuter appeared. Some lively hitting was seen. Tyler and Mr Winter each tried an over before luncheon. Fifteen runs were

made from them, and at the interval the score was 262 for seven wickets.

Subsequently Tyler and Mr Woods were intrusted with the attack. Mr Key returned the ball at 275; his 47 was composed of six fours, five threes, two twos &c. Sharpe joined Mr Shuter, who batted well for a little while, until a catch at slip disposed of him. Nine for 291. The interest now centred in the question whether the 300 would be reached. This was eventually done by four byes. The last comer was then secured by extra slip. Time, 3.10.

Somerset entered on the heavy task of getting 337 for victory, but lost Hale and Nichols for a single. After this discouragement Messrs Hewett and Fowler offered such resistance to the attacks of Lohmann and Lockwood that 50 were signalled as the result of 40 minutes' play. Mr Hewett was then caught in the long field and Mr Woods taken behind the bowler. Four for 74. Mr C J Robinson assisted Mr Fowler, and both batsmen hit vigorously. Sharpe superseded Lockwood at 78, but still runs came. A hundred were made in 70 minutes, and Mr Fowler completed his 50 at a quarter to 5. Brockwell relieved Sharpe and Lohmann gave way to Abel. From the latter's third ball Mr C J Robinson was dismissed by a one-handed catch at mid-on. Five for 123.

A few overs later Mr Fowler was stumped; his 54 comprised five fours, four threes and two twos. Abel's bowling was further successful, he being credited with the next three wickets. Nine for 157. As Mr T Robinson (who had a substitute to field for him in the morning) could not bat, the innings now closed. Time, 5.30. Thus Surrey, after their comparatively feeble batting of the previous day, won by the substantial majority of 179 runs.

6 June: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3808.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 June, page 9)

Kent took down a fine side to Bristol yesterday to meet the western county. It included Mr W H Patterson (who is usually unable to play until much later in the season) and G G Hearne. The home team, also, were strong, places being found for Mr S A P Kitcat, an Old Marlburian, and Captain Luard, a Cheltonian. The fine weather and the prospect of a good match attracted about five thousand people to Ashley Down.

Having won the toss Kent opened their innings with A Hearne and Mr Braybrooke. Woof and Roberts were the early bowlers. At the outset the amateur did well, and in spite of a double variation in the attack he was credited with 28 of the 44 runs registered in half an hour. Mr Marchant hit in a determined style for a few overs, but at 70 he was secured by the wicket-keeper. Mr Patterson arrived, and in conjunction with A Hearne completely mastered the attack. The first hour's play yielded 82 runs, and at half-past 1 the 100 was recorded. Although Dr E M Grace tried his well-known "lobs" the scoring went smartly on, and at the interval 143 were registered.

Three runs afterwards Mr Patterson was driven on to his wicket; his 55 had been obtained in 70 minutes, and included two fours, five threes and 11 twos. A Hearne, after batting patiently for two and a quarter hours, played on. Eventually nine of the visitors were dismissed for 203, and then Wright and Leaney became partners. These made a stand for the tenth wicket, putting on 42. The Kent innings lasted four hours and a quarter for 245.

Gloucestershire began their batting, and when stumps were drawn for the day had lost three wickets for 48.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 June, page 6)

At the Ashley Down Ground, Bristol, yesterday these counties resumed their match in delightful weather. Kent had accumulated no fewer than 245 runs for their opening venture, and at the close of Monday's play three of the home wickets were lost for 48. Mr Sainsbury and Dr W G Grace (not-out 7 and 19) continued their batting. Martin and W Hearne had charge of the attack.

The former disposed of Mr Sainsbury before he had scored further, and soon afterwards Captain Luard was bowled. The home captain fell to a catch at mid-off, and then Murch and Mr Kitcat became associated. These showed a bold front to the attack, and the 100 was signalled at 20 minutes past 12. At this stage Mr Fox had the misfortune to slip down and put his shoulder out. With the score at 117 Murch was clean bowled. Still Mr Kitcat continued to hit freely and, after losing the assistance of Woof and Roberts, he and Board conducted the total to 165. Only a single was now required to prevent the follow on, but a catch at cover-point dismissed Mr Kitcat without this being obtained. He had been batting for two hours, and in his 46 were a five, three fours, three threes and five twos.

In the prescribed minority of 80, Gloucestershire entered on their second venture, with Dr E M Grace and Mr Kitcat. Wright and W Hearne undertook the attack. Only nine runs were made when the latter found out a weak point in Dr E M Grace's defence. Mr Radcliffe came, and despite the

varied devices adopted by their rivals he and Mr Kitcat increased the score by 87 before the latter was bowled; he had been batting for an hour and three-quarters and, although marred by a couple of chances, his 52 was a capital performance. The chief hits in it were four fours, four threes and five twos. Two for 96.

Painter remained until 126 had been reached, and Dr W G Grace joined Mr Radcliffe. The former had a narrow escape when he had scored eight. The batting then triumphed, and the pair were left together at the close of the day. Gloucestershire are to be congratulated on the manner in which they are playing what was an uphill game. As they are 116 runs on and have yet seven wickets to fall it no longer remains so.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 9 June, page 7)

The excellent form shown by the western county in this match on Tuesday was fully maintained yesterday. There was a large company on the Ashley Down Ground, Bristol, to witness its continuation. Gloucestershire, who had followed on and lost three wickets for 196, resumed their batting with Mr Radcliffe and Dr W G Grace (not-outs 91 and 28). W Hearne and Martin were the bowlers.

Quickly after the total had passed the 200 Mr Radcliffe completed his "century." With the score at 230 the home captain was caught by mid-on, 104 runs having been recorded since the fall of the third wicket; among his hits were three fours, four threes and six twos. At length, for an addition ten runs, Mr Radcliffe was clean bowled. His 117, which is the highest score gained by him in a first-class match, was the result of four and a half hours' good play; it comprised eight fours, eight threes and thirteen twos. Five down. Captain Luard batted in excellent form, but could get few to stay with him. At 258 Mr Sainsbury was secured by the wicket-keeper, while ten runs quickly both Murch and Woof were dismissed. At 297 Captain Luard was clean bowled, and directly afterwards a catch at slip sent back Roberts and closed the innings.

The luncheon interval was now taken, after which Kent began their second venture with 218 before them for victory. Mr Braybrooke and A Hearne were opposed by Dr W G Grace and Murch. Runs came so fast that the bowling was soon intrusted to Woof and Roberts. A catch at cover-point disposed of Mr Braybrooke at 41, and out of this number he was credited with 35. Mr Marchant played on, and Mr Patterson joined A Hearne. The former again batted in fine style, while the latter showed considerable patience. The prospects to the visitors greatly improved, but after their separation at 103 the others did little, the ninth wicket falling for 136, within three-quarters of an hour of time. As Mr Fox was unable to play the innings now closed. From the full score attached it will be seen that Gloucestershire won by 81 runs.

6 June: MIDDLESEX v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3809.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 June, page 9)

The spectators at Lord's yesterday numbered about 10,000. Fortunately the weather was fine throughout the day, and some capital cricket in the match between Middlesex and Somerset was witnessed. The Middlesex players were the same as those who were victorious against Kent, while there were four changes in the Somerset side who were beaten by Surrey – namely, Messrs Palairt, Challen, Hill and Roe in the places of Messrs Fowler, T Robinson, Hancock and Winter.

Somerset won the toss and elected to put their opponents in, and Messrs Stoddart and Webbe took possession of a wicket pitched a little towards the pavilion. Mr Woods and Tyler led off the attack. The batsmen opened cautiously, and the first 20 occupied as many wickets. Six runs subsequently the Middlesex captain was bowled, and Mr Scott came. Two leg-hits, which yielded six, were made by Mr Stoddart in an over from Tyler, who then came way to Nichols. Soon after a fine return by Mr Woods from the off-side caused Mr Stoddart to be run out. Mr Nepean was speedily dismissed by a quick catch at slip. Messrs Scott and O'Brien caused 50 to be recorded as the result of 55 minutes' play. The latter obtained seven by two drives, and at 60 Tyler again gave place to Nichols. Two cuts to the boundary were made by Mr O'Brien from the change. Then, at 71, Hale superseded Mr Woods. Mr Scott further enlivened the batting by two square-leg hits for four, and then Mr O'Brien drove the ball in grand style to the off, where it travelled to the furthest corner of the ground. Mr Woods resumed at 89, and Mr Scott was at once out from a well-judged catch in the long field. Both Rawlin and Phillips were bowled. Four and five for 89, six for 90.

Mr Henery joined Mr O'Brien, and the 100 was reached after an hour and forty minutes' play. With the addition of a single Mr Henery's off stump was struck down, and the second ball bowled him dismissed Mr Lucas, while West fell to the same attack. Mr O'Brien and J T Hearne were next together. The former batted with freedom, adding 12 in three hits. The score at luncheon stood at 129. Afterwards 13 were put on, and then Mr O'Brien was bowled; he had hit freely for his 76, in which were ten fours, five threes and seven twos.

Messrs Palairt and Hewett went in first for Somerset, and were opposed by Rawlin and J T Hearne. For a few overs matters went well for the visitors until Mr Palairt returned a ball to Rawlin, which was very well held. Mr Challen filled the vacancy. At 36 Mr Hewett played on. Two down. Hale hit promisingly for a few overs, but was then clean bowled. Nichols arrived to the assistance of Mr Challen, who batted with great vigour. The bowling underwent several changes. In one over from Phillips Mr Challen drove the ball almost straight to the pavilion. Mr Henery tried to catch it, but slipped up the slight embankment. The next ball the same batsman also drove for four, and a square-leg hit by him to the boundary caused the 100 to be signalled at ten minutes to 5. Mr Stoddart tried an over. The dismissal of Mr Challen was at length brought about through a smart piece of fielding by Rawlin at cover-point, who threw the wicket down when that batsman and Nichols were attempting a short run. A catch at deep mid-off quickly sent back Mr Hill, and Mr Roe cut the ball into point's hands. Six for 108.

Mr Woods came, and at length Nichols, who had batted with great patience, was bowled; 73 runs had been put on during his stay at the wickets. Mr Woods drove a ball over the pavilion rails, after which Mr C J Robinson was smartly caught at mid-on. Eight for 126. Mr Woods and Mr Newton made several lucky hits, and at a quarter to 6 the Middlesex total was equalled. For an addition half

a dozen runs the ninth wicket went, Mr Woods being out to a fine return catch; and the clean bowling of Tyler brought the innings to a close at five minutes past 6. Total, 154.

Middlesex, with a moderate deficit of a dozen runs, lost Mr Stoddart at 13, and a single later Nichols sent back Mr Scott. Mr Webbe was joined by Phillips, and they played out time.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 June, page 6)

Although there was an absence of the Bank Holiday attendance at Lord's yesterday, there was a large company on the ground by half-past 11, the time fixed for a resumption of this match. At the close of Monday's play the home team, in a minority of a dozen runs, [had] lost two wickets for 25. Mr Webbe and Phillips (not out 9 and 5) faced the attack of Mr Woods (pavilion) and Nichols.

Nothing came from the first four overs. Then each batsman made a single and Mr Webbe cut Nichols through the slips for three, but in the next over his off stump was bowled. Three for 30. Phillips and Mr Nepean were both dismissed for an additional five runs. Half the Middlesex wickets were now lost and the home team were only 23 runs on. Mr O'Brien and Rawlin infused some life into the play. The former made 11 off three consecutive balls from Nichols, who, at 49, gave way to Taylor. A catch at deep mid-off soon afterwards dismissed Rawlin, Mr Woods being credited with the whole of the four wickets which had fallen during the morning. Six for 63.

Mr Henery joined Mr O'Brien, who, although Nichols resumed in place of Tyler, continued to bat freely. Twenty-two runs were made by him in three overs of the change, chiefly by boundary drives. This brought Tyler on again at 96. The total was sent beyond the 100 at a quarter to 1 by an off drive for four by Mr O'Brien, and then Nichols was tried at the Pavilion end. Mr Woods, however, resumed at 108 and bowled Mr Henery's leg stump. Mr Lucas joined Mr O'Brien, who made seven by a leg hit and an on drive in an over from Mr Woods. At length, after an hour and a half's capital batting, Mr O'Brien fell to a smart catch at wicket. Among his hits were ten fours, six threes and seven twos. Eight for 144.

West joined Mr Lucas, and the former showed free hitting for a little while in spite of variations in the attack. At 181, however, he was bowled, a most useful 41 having been put on since the fall of the previous wicket. J T Hearne appeared, and Tyler resumed in place of Mr Palairet, from whom nine had been made in an over. The last comer then drove a ball which fell on to the awning, and the next he sent to the square-leg boundary. At the interval the total had reached 192. only three were added on resuming, and Mr Lucas was out. Duration of innings, three hours and a quarter.

Messrs Palairet and Hewett started to get the 184 necessary for victory for Somerset at 20 minutes past 3. J T Hearne and Rawlin attacked. The latter soon proved destructive, as he clean bowled both the batsmen named, the stump in each case being struck out of the ground. This success was then emulated by Hearne, who quite uprooted Hale's leg stump. Mr Challen was assisted by Nichols, and the latter, among other items, drove Hearne to the off ring, but then he was clean bowled, the off stump on this occasion also being knocked out of the ground. Seven were added when Mr Hill, the new comer, fell to a catch at third man, and half the wickets were lost. Mr Challen and Mr Roe were both bowled, Mr Newton was caught at point and Mr Robinson well taken at long-field-on. Tyler came, and matters were enlivened by Mr Woods, who obtained a dozen in three drives. The dismissal of the professional, caught at mid-on, closed the interfered, after an hour and 20 minutes' batting, for 71.

The day's play afforded a remarkable illustration of the game's proverbial uncertainties. In the early part of it, when Middlesex had lost five wickets in their second venture for 35, or only 23 runs on, an almost certain victory seemed to be in store for the western county. The free hitting of Mr O'Brien, who carried off the batting honours of the match, and the destructive bowling of Rawlin quite reversed this promise, and the collapse of the visitors gave Middlesex an easy win by 112 runs. It may be noted that the metropolitan county have now won their three matches, against Sussex, Kent and Somerset.

6 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3810.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 June, page 9)

There was a large and enthusiastic company on the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, yesterday, to witness the first of the two annual contests between these old opponents. There were alterations in both teams. For the visitors it had been expected that Maurice Read and Wood (suffering from injured hands) would be sufficiently recovered to take their places in the eleven, while the home party had to put up with the absence of Flowers, who had hurt his side, and Daft played instead of him.

The weather was beautiful and 9,355 persons paid for admission – a remarkable attendance after recent experience. There had been considerable rain on Sunday, yet the wicket, while always assisting the bowler, became faster as the day wore on. Mr Shuter's good luck in winning the toss did not forsake him, and he decided to take first innings. Abel and Ayres went to the wickets at ten minutes past 12 to the bowling of Attewell and Shacklock.

Only a single was scored when at catch at point dismissed Abel. Then Ayres was clean bowled, and for a couple of runs Lohmann was caught by the wicket-keeper. This sorry outlook for the visitors was altered when Lockwood and Mr W W Read became associated. Both played with great caution and the first half-hour produced only a dozen runs. Lockwood made a remarkably fine hit to square leg for four, to which his partner responded with three by a late cut. A further four, an on-drive by Lockwood off Shacklock, was the only other item of note up to 30. Barnes was now put on, and when Lockwood appeared to have got well set, a grand catch at long-on by Mr Robinson sent him back. Four for 43. Henderson was secured at the wicket before he had scored and then Mr Read was bowled. Six for 47.

Messrs Key and Shuter caused Shacklock to be brought on again. Good hits were scarce. At 57 this bowler found the way to Mr Key's wicket, and just prior to the interval he also disposed of Mr Shuter. Eight for 68. After luncheon Brockwell was joined by Sharpe, and at 78 the latter was caught by the wicket-keeper. Watts played steadily and Brockwell made a few fine hits. Barnes came on again at 97, and soon an excellent catch at mid-on got rid of Watts and the innings closed.

Shrewsbury and Daft started the home batting at half-past 3, to the bowling of Lohmann and Lockwood. A couple of lucky strokes through the slips for two and four were made by Shrewsbury, to which Daft replied with a crisp cut to the boundary. The first 24 runs took three-quarters of an hour to obtain, and then Sharpe went on for Lohmann, who crossed over. Shrewsbury, when he had scored 11, was missed by Abel at slip. However, he reaped little advantage from the escape, a catch by third man at 25 causing his downfall. Gunn arrived and soon sent a ball of Lohmann's to square-leg for four. With the score at 29 Daft got in front of his wicket. Barnes joined Gunn, who gave a sharp chance to Mr Read at point. A capital catch by extra-slip dismissed Barnes. Three for 35. Mr Dixon made several fine hits, but at 62 he was out lbw, and for the addition of a single Gunn was bowled. Half the wickets were now lost.

Attewell and Mr Robinson batted so freely that a double change in the bowling was tried, Lockwood going on at 77 and Abel at 88. The latter proved effective and caused Attewell to be caught in the long field and Mr Robinson at wicket. Mr Redgate and Shacklock made a stand and passed the Surrey total. Although Lohmann resumed, no other wicket had fallen at the drawing of

stumps, when the total stood at 111. Throughout the day the rate of run-getting was slow, 17 wickets falling for 208.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 June, page 6)

Throughout the whole of yesterday the interest in this match was fully sustained. The weather again proved charming, and over 9,000 people paid for admission to the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham. Monday's play left the home side with three wickets to fall and an advantage of 14 runs in the first innings. Mr Redgate and Shacklock (the not-outs) took up their positions at half-past 11. Lohmann and Lockwood shared the bowling.

With nine runs added the latter dismissed the amateur, while at the same total Mr Bagguley's middle stump was shot out of the ground. Sherwin quickly fell to the wicket-keeper, the innings terminating for 124. Shacklock (the not-out) was the top scorer. So far the game had lasted 40 minutes.

Surrey, with a deficiency of 27, went in a second time at 25 minutes past 12. They began in a most dispiriting manner. Against the bowling of Attewell and Shacklock the wickets fell with startling rapidity. Not a single had been scored when a catch in the slips got rid of Abel; at six Brockwell played on, while with three only added Lohmann was out to a fine return catch. Three wickets, nine runs. Surrey's disasters continued for some time. Lockwood and Mr Read only kept partnership for a few overs, during which the total was advanced to 13, when the former was bowled, while Henderson, having cut a ball for four, played into the wicket-keeper's hands. Half the side were thus out and yet ten of the arrears remained.

Mr Key arrived to the aid of Mr Read, and these altered Surrey's apparently forlorn hope. The former hit with his customary vigour and, although the attack underwent variation, 55 were put on before a catch at third man, fielding rather deep, disposed of Mr Read. The luncheon interval was now taken, and then Mr Shuter went in with Mr Key. Both played excellent cricket and kept their opponents at bay. At 20 minutes past 3 loud cheers greeted the signalling of the "100." A dozen runs were added when Bagguley went on at Attewell's end and at once got Mr Key out – lbw. He had played splendidly, and his batting with that of Mr Read at a point when panic seemed to have seized the Surrey eleven was inestimable.

Ayres arrived and assisted Mr Shuter in advancing the total to 143, when he played the ball back to Shacklock. Sharpe's stay was brief and profitless – caught at slip – but Watts proved an able assistant to Mr Shuter. The Surrey captain quite compensated for any recent disappointments. Twenty-six were added for the last wicket, when he was brilliantly caught in the long field; his principal hits were five fours, four threes and five twos. Shacklock's bowling was most noteworthy, while it may be mentioned that the last five Surrey wickets had yielded 152 runs.

At 20 minutes to 5 Nottinghamshire began their second venture with 143 necessary for victory. Mr Dixon and Gunn were the first batsmen. Lohmann and Lockwood again led the attack. The latter aided his rivals with a couple of no-balls, but at 18 he clean bowled Mr Dixon. Barnes came to the aid of Gunn and a long partnership was witnessed. Both batted with freedom, so that at 45 Mr Read went on with lobs. This change did not pay, Barnes treating them with severity. The total had reached 76 when this batsman was stumped in a peculiar way, as, thinking the ball had gone beyond the wicket-keeper, he deliberately stepped out of his ground.

After this disaster Gunn was bowled at 94, and Shacklock joined Attewell. These played out time, leaving the home side with yet 46 to obtain and seven wickets with which to secure them.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 9 June, page 7)

Although the close of Tuesday's play in this match on the Trent-bridge Ground, Nottingham, pointed to a certain victory for the home county, cricket is so prolific in surprises that some interest was felt in yesterday's game. Nottingham, who wanted 46 to win and seven wickets with which to get them, resumed their batting at 11.35. Attewell and Shacklock (not-outs 13 and 1) were then opposed by Lohmann and Lockwood.

The latter was cut for four by Shacklock, and a single to the same batsman was augmented into five by an overthrow. Then came three byes and another no-ball from Lockwood. Shacklock drove Lohmann for four and Attewell sent the same bowler to square leg for three. Abel took the ball at 124. Seven runs came from three overs, and then Sharpe superseded Lockwood. A hit to square leg by Attewell for four and a cut for three to Shacklock ensued, after which the match was won for Nottinghamshire by seven wickets.

It should be noted that Attewell and Shacklock, in addition to scoring 98 runs, took 18 wickets between them. The winners fielded well and there was not a mistake in either innings. Surrey, of course, were handicapped by the absence of Maurice Read and Wood. The previous victory over the southern county by Nottinghamshire was obtained at the Whitsuntide match in 1890.

6 June: YORKSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3811.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 June, page 9)

The rivalry between these northern shires is always keen, and there was a very large attendance yesterday on the Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield. Successful in the toss, Mr Hornby started batting with Ward a few minutes after 12 o'clock. Peel and Hirst began the attack.

A capital piece of stumping in the first over dismissed the Lancashire captain. Mr M'Laren arrived and the batting for a little while was cautious. Ward then made a dozen runs in three hits off Hirst, who then transferred the ball to Wainwright. At 44 both batsmen were got rid of – Ward caught by third man and Mr M'Laren stumped. Nine runs later Mr Kemp and Briggs were bowled. Half the wickets, 53 runs.

Sugg was in fine form and hit with great vigour, once driving the ball over the seats close to the pavilion. He was ably aided for some time by Mr Crosfield, who, at 87, fell to a catch at wicket. Baker returned the ball and Mr Kemble joined Sugg, the total at the interval being 102 for the loss of seven batsmen. The three remaining wickets afterwards fell in a quarter of an hour, the total reaching 118.

Lord Hawke and Ulyett started the home batting. Watson and Mold were the bowlers; but, although Briggs came on for the former and Mold crossed over, it was not until 44 had been reached that Lord Hawke returned the ball. At 52 a catch in the long field disposed of Hall, and Peel joined Ulyett. The latter was secured by third man, and Mounsey arrived. After an hour and a quarter's play 100 was recorded. Four runs later, however, Peel was caught at mid-on and Wainwright bowled first ball. Mr Frank and Mounsey were then quickly out, seven wickets being captured for 111. After the Lancastrian total had been passed Fletcher obstructed his wicket. Hirst and Tunnicliffe soon forced the total to 148, when the former was caught by the wicket-keeper. The innings was ultimately closed by a catch in the long field which dismissed Tunnicliffe. Total 159. Stumps were now drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 June, page 6)

There was again a numerous gathering to witness this match at Bramall-lane, Sheffield. When play ceased on Monday Yorkshire held a lead of 41 runs at the close of an innings each. In charming weather Mr Hornby and Ward started the visitors' second innings. Hirst and Peel were the bowlers.

The Lancashire captain did well for some time, but at 30 a catch a mid-off caused his retirement, while Mr M'Laren played the ball into third man's hands without having scored. Sugg now joined Ward, who was soon afterwards caught. The 50 was completed in a little less than an hour, and then Sugg cut the ball to Ulyett. Briggs played on, and five batsmen were out with only 9 runs to the good. Messrs Crosfield and Kemp, however, made a stand. Twice the bowling was changed, until at 76 Mr Crosfield was bowled. Baker then went in and then Mr Kemp was caught at cover-point. The visitors were all out by luncheon-time, the innings closing for 101.

After the interval, Yorkshire started to get the 61 necessary for victory. Lord Hawke and Hall were opposed by Watson and Briggs. When only 11 had been scored both these batsmen were bowled.

Further misfortunes soon befell the home side, as at 23 Ulyett was bowled; seven runs later Peel was caught at point and Mounsey at mid-off; while at 33 Mr Frank sent a ball back to Watson. Twenty-eight runs were required and there were four wickets to fall. Tunncliffe and Wainwright stayed and played with commendable care. The 50 was reached at 5 minutes to 4. The 11 other runs were obtained by these batsmen, and amidst considerable exciting Yorkshire thus won by four wickets.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128406.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 June, page 9)

In fine cricketing weather and before a company much above the average for the Lyttelton ground, Leyton, these counties began their match yesterday. Winning the toss, Derbyshire decided to go in on a wicket which had not recovered from the effects of the rain, but which improved as the day advanced. In spite of some good batting by Chatterton, five of the visitors were dismissed for 41, but the remainder rather more than doubled the figures. Mr C J Kortright bowled with great success.

When the home side went in, Messrs Johnston, Owen and Lucas did fairly well, and 51 was reached for the loss of two wickets. The sixth fell for 82, and then came a stand by Messrs Gosling and Kortright.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 June, page 6)

On the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday, this match was brought to a close. When the game ended the previous evening Essex held an advantage, as with three wickets in hand they were 44 runs ahead. Mr R C Gosling again batted well, and Derbyshire in the second venture had to face a minority of 78.

Chatterton showed fine defence, and Storer and Mr Wright also met with some success. However, when the sixth man left the visitors were only three runs to the good. Essex went in to make 44 for victory, and they eventually won by five wickets.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128126.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 June, page 9)

On the Hove ground, at Brighton, yesterday, the match between these counties furnished a capital day's play. The conditions were favourable for the game and there was a large attendance of spectators. Mr Newham was still away from the home side, while Hampshire were assisted by Messrs Hill and Gay, of Cambridge.

After starting indifferently the home eleven fared pretty well. Mr Smith threw plenty of vigour into his batting, and his 50 included six fours, a three and six twos. Several others also hit with considerable freedom. Guttridge made nine and Humphreys seven fours.

Sussex were all out in two hours and a half, and their opponents' innings did not last quite so long. Mr H W Forster, the old Etonian and Oxford cricketer, played finely for 71, making six fours, four threes and nine twos. Sussex held an advantage on the first innings and, having gone in again, eventually finished as follows . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 June, page 6)

Heavy scoring characterized this match at the Hove ground, Brighton, yesterday. The game ended by 7 o'clock, when Sussex won by 205 runs.

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

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

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 7 June, page 9)

These counties yesterday began a match at Birmingham, when Warwickshire were seen to considerable advantage. The weather was fine and a large company assembled.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 8 June, page 6)

Warwickshire gained a decisive victory in this match at Birmingham yesterday. Although several of the visitors were seen to some advantage with the bat, Leicestershire followed on with arrears of 106, and in the end they were beaten by an innings and 33 runs.

9 June: LANCASHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3812.html)

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

Over 12,000 thousand people were present at Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday, to witness this match. Each county had been beaten in the early part of the week.

Lancashire batted first, and after A Ward had been let off in the slips in Wright's first over he and Sugg took the total to 56, when the latter was caught at mid-on. Ward and Briggs subsequently scored 53 runs in 35 minutes; at 130 the former was caught at wicket; among his hits were eight fours, three threes and six twos. Briggs was out lbw at 148. Watson batted very freely, and his chief items were five fours, five threes and three twos. The innings closed for 260 at 5.55. Kent went in . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 11 June, page 15)

At the Old Trafford ground, Manchester, yesterday, an easy defeat seemed to be in store for Kent. The home county, at the close of the first day's play, had scored 260, while one of the visitors' batsmen was out for a dozen runs.

The game was resumed at a quarter to 12, and Kent did so badly that six wickets were lost for 49. Mr Patterson (who, it should be mentioned, was absent in London on business on Thursday and had a substitute to field for him) arrived in time to bat. He, Mr Best and Martin improved matters a little, but the venture closed in two hours for 127.

Kent, in a minority of 133, followed on, and played an uphill game with great spirit. Mr Patterson, who went in second wicket down at 58, carried off the batting honours. He was in for three hours and played faultlessly; his chief hits were nine fours, six threes and 20 twos. He was sixth out – stumped in the last over of the day. Captain Hamilton had assisted him in making 71 for the fifth wicket in a little over three-quarters of an hour. There was an attendance of about 10,000.

Day 3 (report from Monday 13 June, page 7)

The rain of Saturday prevented any play in this match at Manchester, and the contest was left drawn. On the previous day Kent had fought an excellent uphill game, and in their second innings were 124 runs ahead with four wickets to fall. Mr W H Patterson in the double venture obtained 138 runs.

9 June: MIDDLESEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3813.html)

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

Both these counties entered upon their engagement at Lord George Scott yesterday fresh from victories over strong opponents. At Bristol, Gloucestershire gained an unexpected win over Kent, while at headquarters Middlesex secured an equally fortunate success over Somerset. A continuation of the fine weather, coupled with the prospect of good cricket, brought a large company to the ground at noon.

Dr W G Grace won the toss, and at ten minutes past 12 went in with Dr E M Grace. Mr Nepean and J T Hearne opened the bowling. The Gloucestershire captain was missed in the slips from the first ball sent him by Hearne. He turned this escape to account until at 109 he played a ball into the wicket-keeper's hands. Mr Radcliffe, who went in first wicket down, hit with the greatest freedom. He was batting two hours and a quarter for his 82, in which were ten fours, five threes, six twos &c. The innings, which had lasted four hours, closed for 244.

The attendance had increased to over 4,000 when Messrs Stoddart and Webbe started the Middlesex batting. Roberts and Murch were the bowlers. Thirty-three runs came in a little over a quarter of an hour, when a catch at slip, fielding sharp, sent back Mr Webbe. Mr Scott came and Woof at once relieved Roberts. Mr Stoddart got in front of his wicket seven runs later. Mr Nepean joined Mr Scott, and these two batsmen played out time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 11 June, page 15)

At Lord's yesterday Middlesex took full advantage of the excellent wicket. The weather holding fine, there was again a numerous company. On the previous day Gloucestershire had put together 244 and two Middlesex wickets were lost for 110.

On resuming the home side quickly lost two valuable batsmen – Mr Nepean, caught at wicket, and Mr O'Brien, in the long field. Four for 139. Mr Scott, who was joined by Rawlin, gave a chance to Roberts at mid-on. He then batted in a very excellent manner, and at half-past 12 completed his own 50 and took the total to 150. The alterations in the attack were numerous, but still the batting triumphed. At hit to leg by Rawlin off Dr E M Grace's lob completed the 200 at a quarter past 1, and at ten minutes to 2 the visitors' total was passed, and no separation had been effected at the interval.

On continuing, runs came at a very rapid rate. Mr Scott was again missed by Roberts off Dr W G Grace at mid-on after he had made 136. At length, when this batsman and Rawlin had been in a little over two hours and put on 160, the latter was bowled; his principal hits were seven fours, four threes and six twos. The 300 was sign at 20 minutes past 3, and a quarter of an hour later Mr Scott completed his 150, which had taken him four hours and a quarter. Mr Henery, who had made a remarkably fine drive into the pavilion, was caught at point. Six for 363. Phillips aided Mr Scott in taking the score to 400, reached after five hours and 20 minutes' batting.

Runs continued to be quickly obtained until at 450 Dr E M Grace tempted Phillips to hit the ball into the hands of long field off; 87 runs had been scored in an hour since the fall of the previous

wicket. Mr Lucas came, and at 5.20 Mr Scott sent Dr Grace to the leg boundary, which increased his score to 201. The signalling of this was greeted with the heartiest enthusiasm by the many thousands present; he had taken six hours to obtain them. Mr Lucas was bowled, and at 5.45 the fifth hundred was recorded. West fell to a catch at long-off, and at length Woof bowled Mr Scott. This gentleman's 224 was made up of 27 fours, four threes, 15 twos and singles. Duration of innings, seven hours; total, 523.

With the heavy arrears of 279 Gloucestershire went in a second time. They started badly by losing Mr Radcliffe (caught at slip) for a couple, and when a dozen runs had been made Mr Sainsbury was bowled, while for an additional run Woof was served in the same manner.

Day 3 (report from Monday 13 June, page 7)

Gloucestershire were in a little less than hopeless position on Friday night at Lord's when, with seven wickets in hand, they wanted 258 to avoid a single innings defeat; but on Saturday their captain threw great spirit into the game and, aided by his brother and another member or so of the eleven, played in a manner worthy of the western county's best traditions. Thus the large company which assembled early at Lord's saw plenty of good cricket. Some of the home bowlers tasted the vigour of Dr W G Grace's skill, on account of which the afternoon had well advanced before Middlesex were able to claim the victory.

Play was resumed at 11.40, when Hearne and Rawlin shared the bowling. Mr Kitcat and Roberts, the not outs, were quickly disposed of, and, with half the side gone for 48, an early finish seemed probable. But Dr W G Grace, who had gone in with the record at "26 for four," was now joined by his brother. The partnership yielded 39[?]. During the scoring of these, West, the Middlesex wicket-keeper, and Mr Henery injured their hands, the latter having to retire. Painter played steadily, while Dr W G Grace batted freely. At 133 Painter and Captain Luard were bowled by Phillips. Murch helped his captain to add another 43 for the ninth wicket and then the end came, both Murch and Board leaving at 177. Dr W G Grace took out his bat for 72, an innings in every way worthy of the great cricketer; he was in two and a half hours and his chief hits were four fours, four threes and eight twos. In the match Dr Grace made 119 runs.

Middlesex won by an innings and 102 runs, a result that further showed the calibre of the side this season, they having gained four victories – viz., over Sussex, Kent, Somerset and Gloucestershire. As will be seen from the figures subjoined Phillips was the most successful bowler.

9 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3814.html)

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

In the Parks at Oxford, yesterday, Somerset batted well against the Dark Blues. Going in first they lost two men for 15 runs, but then Mr Hewett and Nichols put on 74 in three-quarters of an hour. The former was fourth to leave at 104, having made 54, which included four fours, two threes and nine twos. The innings eventually realized 193.

Oxford began badly, and four of their batsmen were dismissed for 34. Mr Fry hit with great determination and in a couple of hours made 105 runs. Mr Little aided him in putting on 70 for the sixth wicket.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 11 June, page 15)

In fine weather and before a large company, play in this match was continued yesterday in the Parks at Oxford. At the close of Thursday the county had run up the total of 193, while Oxford, for the loss of seven wickets, had passed this number by five. The innings closed for an addition of 20. Mr Fry's fine innings extended over rather more than two hours and comprised 15 fours, two threes, ten twos &c.

Somerset, who were 25 only behind, did badly in their second venture. Six wickets fell for 36 runs, but Messrs Robinson and Dunlop put on 44 for the seventh. The county were all out in an hour and a half for 81. Thus the Oxford eleven were left with 57 to make for victory. These were obtained in three-quarters of an hour. Oxford won the match by seven wickets.

9 June: SURREY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3815.html)

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

The visit of the Light Blues to Kennington Oval heralds a wider interest in University cricket. Cambridge began their match on the Surrey ground yesterday when everything was favourable for the game – viz., glorious weather and a fast wicket. There were some 6,000 spectators.

For once in a way Mr Shuter did not win the toss, and shortly after 12 o'clock Cambridge went in. Mr R N Douglas soon fell to a catch at slip, but the game grew lively immediately on Mr Martin-Scott's appearance. He made 32 by seven fours, a three and a single, and then at 47 stepped forward to hit Abel and was stumped. After six wickets had fallen for 98 came the stand of the innings by Messrs Latham and Streatfeild, who scored 95 in 50 minutes, but the venture then rapidly ended for 218. Latham played splendidly for 64; his defence was sound and his off-driving was particularly clean and hard. Beyond a sharp chance to mid-off at 58 he made no mistake, and the innings embraced nine fours, three threes and three twos.

Surrey began batting at ten minutes to 4. Five wickets were lost for 60, when Mr Key joined Henderson. In a little more than half an hour 50 were very quickly added. Mr Shuter who followed in played brilliantly, and he and Henderson stayed together for an hour and 20 minutes; during this time no fewer than 139 were added. Henderson was caught at wicket for 61, in which were a five (four by an overthrow), three fours, five threes and four twos. Mr Shuter was ninth to leave – caught at mid-off at 251. The vigour of his cricket may be gleaned from the fact that he obtained his 93 in an hour and a half by 14 fours, four threes, five twos and singles. Surrey's last five wickets produced 200 runs, and in the end the home side claimed a lead of 49.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 11 June, page 15)

Another company of 6,000 people showed how well sustained was the interest in the Cambridge match at the Oval yesterday. Surrey had finished on Thursday evening with an advantage of 49, and when play was resumed the University started in a manner that savoured of success for the county.

Messrs R N Douglas and Cooper were dismissed for a couple of runs; but the partnership of Messrs Martin-Scott and J Douglas installed a series of batting triumphs for the Light Blues. In rather less than an hour the third wicket put on 91 runs. Mr Martin-Scott played brilliantly until a well-judged catch in the long field disposed of him for 56; his chief hits were a five (to leg), ten fours, a three and three twos.

After the bowling of Mr J Douglas a fine stand was made by Mr Jackson and Mr Latham, who in a little over an hour added 103 runs. The Cambridge captain should have been easily run out at the beginning of the innings, but was saved by a blunder of Brockwell's; he played fine vigorous cricket for 61, in which were seven fours, three threes and seven twos. Mr Latham was thrown out by Mr Key from square leg at 228; for the second time in the match his was a splendid innings, and he scored in all 118 runs for only once out. His 54 included a five (a leg hit), five fours and five twos. Cambridge completed their venture by 10 minutes to 4, and Surrey were left with 243 to make for victory.

Abel and Brockwell started pretty well, but the county's misfortunes began in earnest at 25, when a brilliant catch at extra slip disposed of Brockwell. Maurice Read, Lockwood and Mr W W Read were all out for 59, and Abel and Henderson, after appearing likely to make a stand, were separated at 79 by Mr Jackson throwing the wicket down from cover-point and getting rid of Henderson. Mr Key played well until caught at wicket, while Abel was seventh to leave at 132, Mr Streatfeild closing his innings of an hour and three-quarters by another good catch at extra slip. Although Mr Shuter hit vigorous and brought his record in the double innings to 121, Surrey were all out at 6.20, and Cambridge won by 80 runs, repeating their victory of last year. During the two days 938 runs were obtained.

The Light Blues should be proud of this triumph, the outcome of hard and good cricket, which brought into great prominence the sterling qualities of the captain, Mr F S Jackson, as an all-round player, and further showed that in Mr P H Latham, the Malvern Freshman, they possess quite a prize batsman. Thus Surrey ended a week of disaster which will not easily be forgotten.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/113/113431.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Friday 10 June, page 11)

Day 2 (report from Saturday 11 June, page 15)

This match was resumed yesterday at Leicester. The home county fared badly in their first innings, but when they followed on a great improvement was shown . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 13 June, page 7)

This match was brought to a close at Leicester on Saturday, when Yorkshire gained a brilliant victory by eight wickets. On Friday evening Leicestershire, who had followed on, were 101 runs to the good with one batsman in hand. They quickly completed their innings, and Yorkshire were left with 102 to make to win. After the dismissal of Hall, a fine stand was made by Mr Frank and Mounsey, and the result was as already stated.

13 June: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v H T HEWITT'S XII

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3816.html)

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

In this match at Cambridge the Somerset club have called in the aid of Mr M'Gregor, the celebrated wicket-keeper, and Mr N C Cooper to complete a side of 12 with which to meet the University. These gentlemen are not possessed of a qualification to play for the western county, but the match serves its purpose as a trial for the Light Blues. The wicket yesterday was a little affected by the rain and the bowlers generally had the advantage.

Somerset went in first. Ten men were out for 53, but the last wicket improved matters and the total reached 81. The first two Cambridge players were dismissed without scoring, after which Mr Weigall fared well. Mr J Douglas helped him to add 31, and the figures eventually travelled to 97 . . .

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

The light Blues were decisively beaten by Mr Hewett's Somerset team at Cambridge yesterday. Somerset, who had lost one wicket for 69, resumed their second innings and, after Mr Cooper and Mr M'Gregor had been dismissed, Mr Woods and Nichols added 164 runs in an hour and a half. Apart from Messrs Weigall and J Douglas, the Cambridge team fared badly and were eventually beaten by 194 runs.

13 June: SURREY v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3817.html)

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

This match began at Kennington Oval yesterday, when Surrey took the field after a week in which they had twice known defeat. In spite of the unfavourable weather some 8,000 people were present.

Middlesex took first innings. A bumping wicket and the short pitched balls from Lockwood proved too much for their batsmen. The first 29 runs were quickly scored, but with the dismissal of Mr Stoddart (caught at extra slip) began the visitors' misfortunes. Lockwood got wicket after wicket, and the first six fell to his bowling for 63. Mr O'Brien was taken at third man from a ball which he cut on to the wicket-keeper's knee. The last four were secured by Lohmann and the innings, which lasted only an hour and three-quarters, closed for 75.

When Surrey went in the pitch had considerably dried. Mr W W Read, after cutting Hearne for five (increased to seven by an overthrow), was caught at mid-off at 21, and at 30 Lohmann fell to a fine left-handed catch at short slip. After Maurice Read had gone Mr Shuter and Abel added 40 in less than half an hour for the fourth wicket. Abel for some time longer played remarkably well. He was fifth out at 121, bowled by a good ball from Hearne; his 49 occupied an hour and three-quarters and included a five (square-leg hit), two fours, five threes and two twos. Lockwood threw plenty of vigour into his game until Mr Thesiger finely caught him running in from long-off. Mr Key and Brockwell were together a long time and put on 43 for the eighth wicket, while the last man left at 210.

Middlesex fielded excellently, and the four catches by Hearne at short slip and the two by Mr Thesiger in the long field were among the best features of the cricket. But the closing hour furnished the most attractive batting of the day, when Middlesex began their second innings with arrears of 135. Mr Stoddart played brilliantly, and when Lockwood crossed to Lohmann's end scored 14 from him in one over – three fours and a two – all fine hits. Mr Webbe exercised some caution, but one drive by him from Lohmann to the boundary was particularly good. At the drawing of stumps 53 of the deficit had been rubbed off.

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

More dull weather and a keen east wind were experienced at Kennington Oval yesterday, but the cricket ruled of great excellence; and the 6,000 or 7,000 people grew rapidly enthusiastic as the game progressed. It was a keen uphill fight for Middlesex, who, although Messrs Stoddart and Webbe had scored 53 in the second innings, were still 82 behind.

Play was resumed at 11.40, when the bowlers were Sharpe and Lohmann. Thirty-two were added in 20 minutes, and then Mr Webbe was out, while 42 runs later Mr Scott fell to third man. Mr O'Brien's arrival was quickly followed by the clearing off of the deficit of 135, a fact that was warmly noted by the spectators. However, at 157 Mr Stoddart, who had exercised considerable caution as the 100 was approached, played under a ball, which went to third man. He had obtained 91 in two hours by brilliant batting, and had secured 15 fours and seven twos.

For some time the game went steadily against Middlesex, and the sixth wicket fell at 177. Mr

Thesiger, however, showed capital play; a couple of cuts by him to the boundary were remarkably good. Phillips, too, hit vigorously, and the bowling was several times varied before, at 217, the professional was stumped. The stand had produced 40. After luncheon West was caught in the long field, and with one man to come in Middlesex were only 96 ahead. But the next three-quarters of an hour greatly improved the visitors' prospects. J T Hearne and Mr Thesiger batted so well and with such vigour that 75 were put on. The bowlers were all treated with equal freedom. After Hearne had given a sharp chance to Mr Key at mid-on he drove Lohmann finely to the boundary, and when Mr Read's lobs were tried the 300 was soon reached amid loud cheers. Six runs later, however, the separation came, a good return by Mr Key from leg causing Hearne to be run out. Mr Thesiger took out his bat for 60, in which were two fives, four fours, five threes and six twos. Hearne made eight fours. The Middlesex innings extended over four hours.

With the substantial score of 172 to obtain for victory, Surrey went in a second time at 4 o'clock. The original "order" was adhered to. Mr W W Read and Abel both opened with care, and the bowlers for a long time kept the runs down. Abel scored at the quicker rate, and he reached 42 while Mr Read was making 20. The amateur now played in quite his old form; 80 were scored in an hour, and Mr Read passed Abel while the latter's figures were yet 42. Bowling changes were tried without success until 117, when Abel was taken at slip. For a second time he had just missed the 50; he played remarkably well and contributed five fours, four threes and three twos.

Mr Read continued his splendid hitting. Towards the close a couple of mistakes occurred in the Middlesex field; Mr Scott misjudged a catch from Mr Read at long-off and West should have run out Lohmann. At 140 Mr Read was clean bowled, hitting right over a good ball from Hearne. His 75 included nine fours, five threes and seven twos. The remaining runs were obtained by Lohmann and Maurice Read, and shortly after 6 o'clock Surrey won by eight wickets. In every way it was a superb day's play, and the brilliancy of the uphill fight by Middlesex was only equalled by the manner in which Mr W W Read and Abel so greatly helped Surrey to a fine victory. Middlesex had not before been defeated this season.

13 June: SUSSEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

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

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

Mr Brann's fine innings of 133 proved the feature of yesterday's cricket at the Hove Ground, Brighton, and enabled the home county to secure an advantage over their rivals.

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

Although Gloucestershire played very much better in their second innings at Brighton, the improvement was not sufficient to save the game. The score subjoined will show that Sussex won by seven wickets.

13 June: YORKSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3819.html)

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

About 5,000 people assembled at the Park Avenue Ground, Bradford, yesterday, for the opening of the match between Yorkshire and Kent. The former were strongly represented, but Mr W H Patterson was unable to play for Kent.

Successful in the toss, the home side went in first. Lord Hawke and Mr Sellers batted vigorously. However, the honours of the innings were carried off by Peel, who, going in second wicket down, was not dismissed until after two and a half hours, during which time he made 50 without giving a chance. His chief hits were five fours, two threes and four twos, and the longest partnerships were, with Mr Sellers, for the fourth wicket, which realized 47, and with Tunnicliffe, for the seventh, the latter adding 41.

During their 90 minutes' play Kent fared badly, in spite of a stand by A Hearne and Mr Marchant, who obtained 38 while they were together.

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

At Bradford yesterday 5,000 people witnessed some very interesting play. On Monday evening Kent stood in some risk of having to follow on, as for the loss of five wickets they had made only 74 against the home score of 200. However, A Hearne played steadily and was well supported by his brother and W Hearne. Hunter eventually stumped him for 61, which had occupied an hour and three-quarters; his chief items were five fours, three threes and six twos.

Yorkshire, who were 50 runs ahead, started rather badly at the second attempt, and Lord Hawke, Ulyett, Peel and Hall were out for 56. From this point, however, the batting triumphed, and Yorkshire, with five batsmen still to lose, are 293 runs in front.

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

Yorkshire had secured so substantial an advantage on Tuesday in this match at Bradford, that, with five wickets in hand, they were 293 ahead. Mr Sellers and Wainwright, who made a great stand overnight, resumed their batting yesterday.

Mr Sellers failed to reach the 100, being bowled at 258; he and Wainwright had put on 129 runs. His faultless innings of 92 included 11 fours, five threes and four twos. Wainwright only survived his late partner by 20 runs, and was then caught at mid-off. His brilliant 81 occupied two hours and he hit 11 fours. Tunnicliffe soon fell to short slip, but Mounsey and Hirst advanced the score by rapid stages to 305, when, at a quarter to 1, Lord Hawke declared Yorkshire's innings at an end.

Kent were left with four hours and three-quarters to play and 356 runs necessary for victory. A Hearne and Mr Braybrooke made a capital start for the visitors, against the bowling of Peel and Hirst. Mr Braybrooke obtained 25 out of the first 26 runs, and so quick was the scoring that 50 went up in 40 minutes. Just before luncheon Mr Braybrooke fell to a clever catch at cover-point.

He had scored 52 out of 64 in fine style. Mr Marchant was soon bowled and Mr Best was third out at 102. Mr L Wilson and A Hearne played with every care, and various bowling changes were tried before, at 138, Mr Wilson fell to a clever return catch. Wickets were then captured steadily, and by half-past 5 Yorkshire had won by 136 runs.

13 June: WARWICKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128129.html)

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

There was a good attendance at the County Ground, Edgbaston, Birmingham, yesterday, when Nottinghamshire and Warwickshire commenced their match. Going in first, Warwickshire kept possession of the wicket for nearly three and a half hours. Mr J E Hill showed excellent form and, with law, obtained 66 runs for the third wicket – the longest partnership on the side. Richards played very carefully.

The visitors opened their batting with Gunn and Shrewsbury, both of whom were seen to advantage until Gunn was caught at wicket, after which Barnes and Shrewsbury played out time.

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

Yesterday this match was concluded at the Warwickshire County Ground, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Nottinghamshire won by four wickets.

Wednesday 15 June: THE CAMBRIDGE ELEVEN

The following gentlemen have received their Blues: - Mr J Douglas, Mr L H Gay and Mr H R Bromley-Davenport.

16 June: MIDDLESEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3820.html)

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

With these elevens, both in fine form this season, the interest in their meeting at Lord's yesterday aroused more than average interest. Some 3,000 or 4,000 people were present, but the weather was uncertain, and there were two long interruptions by rain during the afternoon.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 June, page 14)

Improved weather and plenty of excellent cricket made the second day of this match at Lord's particularly enjoyable. There were fully 5,000 spectators.

Day 3 (report from Monday 20 June, page 7)

This match which closed at Lord's late on Saturday will rank among the most remarkable of the season. Yorkshire, after frequently having to fight an uphill game, were put in to make 249 to win in the fourth innings of the contest, and this feat they achieved in a manner that revived memories of the Middlesex and Mr O'Brien's performances in the same fixture a few years ago. The weather for the most part was bright and pleasant, but a couple of showers, one of some severity, fell in the afternoon. There were 5,000 spectators.

Middlesex, who were 180 on with five wickets to fall at the close of Friday, resumed their batting at 11.35. Mr Scott added six runs to his 48 not out, and then Wainwright dismissed him – leg-before. Phillips, Mr Lucas and J T Hearne all helped to make Yorkshire's task more difficult, and it was 1 o'clock before Middlesex were all out for 184.

Ulyett and Mounsey opened the innings for Yorkshire at 1.25, Hearne and Rawlin bowling. An ill-judged run nearly cost Ulyett his wicket, and probably would have done so if Mr Thesiger's return from third man had been a little brisk. Subsequently Mounsey played freely and Ulyett carefully until at 24 a good ball from Hearne beat the former. Mr E Smith came in first wicket down, and at the interval the figures were 43.

Afterwards the batting was excellent, and 70 had been put on in an hour when Mr Smith was run out. Two for 94. Peel arrived, and the 100 went up at 3.40, but he was well caught at slip at 121. Mr Sellers followed in. Ulyett now drove a ball dangerously near Mr Thesiger in the long field; previously he was nearly caught by Rawlin and Phillips with his figures at 25 and 48. Loud cheers greeted the completion of Ulyett's 100, which were scored in two hours 35 minutes. A very heavy shower caused a delay at 4.55 with the record at 199, and the game could not be resumed until 5.30.

Sellers then played on; he had been in an hour, during which 78 were obtained. Four for 199. Wainwright joined Ulyett, who soon afterwards was bowled by Hearne. Ulyett's stay extended over nearly three hours, and his fine innings of 111 included 13 fours, four threes and ten twos. Five for 206. Wainwright and Moorhouse added 34, but West made another mistake at wicket, and should have caught the former when the figures were 17. Moorhouse left at 240, but with Tunnicliffe in, Wainwright soon made the winning hit – an on-drive for four from Phillips.

Yorkshire thus won by four wickets.

The defeat of Middlesex could be in some degree traced to the blunders of the wicket-keeper, who badly missed Peel with only 13 to his credit on Friday, while on Saturday he erred still further. Yorkshire have won the whole of their county matches so far this season.

16 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3821.html)

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

Bad weather in a great degree spoilt the opening of one of the most attractive of the Trent-bridge fixtures. There was no cricket yesterday before luncheon, but afterwards Lancashire had the good fortune to go in first on an easy wicket, and they made capital use of their opportunities.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 June, page 14)

There was a much larger attendance at Trent-bridge yesterday than on the opening day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 20 June, page 7)

When play ceased on Friday evening at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, the visitors had rather the better of the game, as with three wickets to fall in the second innings they were 185 runs on.

Baker, who had given the home bowlers so much trouble and was not out with 50, only improved his score by a single; he had been in an hour and three-quarters, and his chief hits were six fours, three threes and six twos. The outstanding batsmen raised the score to 182, which left Nottinghamshire with 222 to make for victory – anything but a light task against the Lancastrians.

Shrewsbury and Mr Jones, however, met with so much success that in the half-hour before luncheon they obtained 44 runs, while in rather less than an hour they scored 75. A good piece of fielding by Baker now brought about the dismissal of Mr Jones, whose capital batting left a very favourable impression. Indeed, the young Cambridge cricketer made an excellent first appearance for his county. With Gunn in runs still came at a good rate, and the appearance of the 100 at half-past 3 elicited loud cheers. When 40 had been added in as many minutes for the second wicket Shrewsbury was bowled by Briggs. He had been in an hour and 35 minutes, and his chief hits were three fours, five threes and six twos.

Barnes came next, and again the score travelled with rapidity; 60 were registered during the hour of the third partnership, and the figures stood at 175 when Briggs bowled Barnes. Flowers aided Gunn, who exercised more caution than at the beginning of his innings, which was perhaps rendered necessary by the pitch becoming a little difficult. Flowers, however, threw plenty of vigour into his game. The 200 was passed at 5.20, but 16 runs later a catch at slip sent back Flowers, who had contributed 31 of the 41 added during his stay. Attewell arrived, and at half-past 5 Gunn made the winning hit. Gunn was in rather more than two hours for his 56, in which were two fours, five threes and six twos. Nottinghamshire thus gained a brilliant victory by six wickets; the runs had been made at the rate of 68 an hour.

16 June: SUSSEX v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3822.html)

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

The Cambridge team paid their annual visit to Brighton yesterday, when considerable progress was made with their match with Sussex.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 June, page 14)

Yesterday afternoon, at the Hove Ground, Brighton, this match was brought to a close. Eventually the Light Blues won the match by six wickets.

16 June: DERBYSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128132.html)

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

Surrey sent a strong eleven to Derby yesterday to keep their engagement with Derbyshire. Richardson, the fast bowler, was again included in the side, and he met with marked success. Dull weather was experienced and the wicket assisted the attack all day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 18 June, page 14)

Last evening at Derby a brilliant victory was gained by Surrey over the home county.

Saturday 18 June: THE CAMBRIDGE ELEVEN

Mr P H Latham, who showed such fine batting skill for Cambridge v Surrey at the Oval last week, has been given his "Blue." Messrs Bromley-Davenport, Gay and J Douglas had been already chosen to play at Lord's, so that with the seven "old Blues" the Cambridge team is now complete.

20 June: KENT v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3823.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 June, page 12)

Yesterday these counties began the first of their matches at the Private Banks' cricket ground, Catford-bridge. The weather was unsettled and the rain more than once interrupted the play. Mr W H Patterson, of Kent, and Mr L C H Palaret, of Somerset, were not playing.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 June, page 11)

After an excellent match the Somerset eleven at Catford-bridge last evening gained their first county victory of the season. On Monday evening they had made 87 for three wickets, but when the game was resumed Mr Hedley alone met with any considerable batting success, and in three-quarters of an hour the innings was completed for an addition of 51. Mr Hedley's chief hits were seven fours and seven twos.

The home side with an advantage of 51 started their second venture well; indeed with some rapidity did Mr Braybrooke score that 49 were obtained in less than half an hour. But with his dismissal fortune changed: Messrs Woods and Hedley carried all before them and Somerset were left with 160 to make for victory. This task was begun by Messrs Hewett and Fowler, who scored 80 runs in three-quarters of an hour. Soon afterwards both players were disposed of, but Nichols and Hale batted well, and eventually Somerset won by four wickets.

20 June: LANCASHIRE v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

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

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 June, page 12)

In this match at Old Trafford, Manchester, the Dark Blues are playing probably their strongest eleven, but the county have not the services of Watson, while Mr A N Hornby is again an absentee. The game did not begin until a quarter to 4 because of rain.

Oxford had first innings, and although Messrs Palairt and Jones made 21 for the opening partnership, five batsmen were out in an hour and a quarter for 46. Mr Hill then played freely and, aided by Mr Case, put on 30 for the sixth wicket, and with Mr Wood obtained 38 more. Among his figures were six fours. Oxford were batting over two hours for 120, but with nine men out they completed their venture, Mr Brain being too unwell to go in. Lancashire had a few minutes' play . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 June, page 11)

With an improved wicket at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, the Lancastrians had the better of this match. On Monday they disposed of Oxford for 120, and when the game was resumed they retained possession of the batting for more than four hours.

Sugg and A Ward put on 44 for the first partnership, and the latter, with Smith, added 57 for the second. Ward was then bowled for 47. Several other batsmen fared well, especially Yates, who, arriving with the record at 165 for six, made 57 out of the last 80 runs. Mr Brain, being too unwell to take part in the game, was succeeded by Mr Higson, of Rossall, and Mr Jardine kept wicket. Oxford, who were 134 behind, went in again, and when rain stopped play for the day the score stood as follows: . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 June, page 11)

With the wicket treacherous, the Oxford eleven could scarcely have hoped to save their match with Lancashire at Old Trafford, so that their defeat yesterday was not unexpected. Four batsmen were out on the previous evening for 43. Messrs Hill and Wood played well, but the Lancashire bowlers steadily got out the side, and eventually the county claimed the victory by an innings and 22 runs.

20 June: MIDDLESEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3825.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 June, page 12)

There was a large attendance at Lord's yesterday to witness this match. Going in first on an excellent wicket Nottinghamshire started in a manner that promised well for their opponents. Rain limited the game before luncheon to less than an hour.

The first three wickets were captured cheaply: Mr Jones failed to profit much by an escape of stumping, Gunn was well caught at slip by Hearne, who has secured quite a name for himself in that position, while Barnes was taken at square leg. Three for 38 was the score when Flowers appeared on the scene. Flowers stayed while 57 were added in 70 minutes for the fourth partnership and was then bowled by Hearne. Mr Robinson and Shrewsbury made a lengthened stand. All sorts of bowling changes were adopted. Mr Webbe eventually went on, and he also gave Mr O'Brien a trial for one over only.

Shrewsbury completed his 50 after a stay of little over two hours, and his 100 runs were made in three hours and 40 minutes. Mr Robinson was well caught at slip in the last over of the day for 72, and in the sound and careful innings were five fours, five threes and eight twos. This wicket had yielded 161 runs. Shrewsbury is not out 128, a performance in every way worthy of his great reputation.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 June, page 11)

A great batting triumph for Nottinghamshire has to be recorded, and with this the player most concerned was Shrewsbury, who obtained 212 out of the 466 made in the course of nine hours. About 7,000 people visited Lord's yesterday.

Nottinghamshire, who had lost five batsmen for 256, resumed their innings with Shrewsbury (not out 128) and Attewell. Runs came at a fair pace and 101 were secured in two hours. Shortly before luncheon Hearne bowled Attewell's off stump down; the partnership had yesterday 101, and the retiring batsmen had made seven fours and four twos. Shacklock and Shrewsbury put on 64 in as many minutes, and then the former, who had been badly missed by Mr "Mathews" [Nepean] at cover point, was bowled. After completing his second hundred in seven hours and three-quarters Shrewsbury stayed another 45 minutes; but he added only 12 more runs and was brilliantly caught at mid-on from a hard drive, Phillips holding the ball with his right hand. Shrewsbury was batting eight and a half hours and gave no chance beyond that already mentioned. His 212 embraced 17 fours, eight threes, 20 twos and 80 singles. He has several times during his career scored over 200 in important cricket, but this is his first three-figure innings this season. Eight for 445.

Daft and Wilkinson played with great care, and Daft eventually took out his bat for 13, the result of nearly an hour's stay. The last of the Nottinghamshire batting was seen at a quarter to five, when Sherwin sent the ball into the hands of extra mid-off.

After their long spell of fielding Middlesex started their innings badly. Messrs Stoddart, Webbe and O'Brien were all out for 27, but then came excellent batting by Messrs Scott and "Mathews," and the 50 went up at a quarter past 6. Although various bowling changes were adopted no further

wicket had fallen at the drawing of stumps.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 June, page 11)

There was a fine finish to this match at Lord's last evening, when Nottinghamshire won within four minutes of "time" amidst a scene of great enthusiasm. It was left to the third afternoon to furnish much of the best cricket of the game, and the brilliancy of Mr Stoddart (who made 130) and Mr O'Brien, and the care of Mr Webbe, merited something better than defeat.

Messrs Scott and Mr "Mathews," who had been together while 62 runs were added on Tuesday night, resumed their partnership yesterday morning, but, at 119, it was severed by Shrewsbury catching Mr Scott at point. Ninety-two had been obtained for the fourth wicket; the retiring batsman had made 55, including six fours. Subsequently the side were steadily dismissed. Mr "Mathews's" long and steady innings ended at 144; he was eighth out after a stay of two hours and three-quarters, during which he gave no chance. Nine men were out for 149, but West and Phillips remained together for 20 minutes, when Barnes sent back Phillips.

Middlesex followed on with arrears of 271, and started with the two men who had played so well at the end of the first innings. West, however, was soon bowled, and at 17, after luncheon, Phillips left. Messrs Scott and Stoddart were together some time, and played excellently. However, at 48, Mr Scott was completely beaten in trying to drive, and Mr "Mathews" was caught at wicket without scoring. Four for 55. Messrs O'Brien and Stoddart played with great brilliancy and added 97 in an hour and five minutes before Mr O'Brien was caught by Sherwin for 57, in which were eight fours.

The fifth wicket fell at 152, but Mr Webbe came in and exercised every care, while Mr Stoddart batted freely. In spite of the bowling changes runs came at a rapid rate, and there was a tremendous cheer as Mr Stoddart completed his 100 with a clever single. The 200 went up shortly afterwards. Six o'clock was reached, and yet runs came steadily; the bowling was repeatedly varied at each end until, at 6.25, with the score at 244, Sherwin gave up the gloves to Mr Robinson and went on at the nursery end. In his first over Sherwin got out Mr Webbe, who had been in an hour and a half, during which 95 had been added. Six for 247.

Without further scoring Mr Stoddart was dismissed "leg-before" to Attewell; he had been in three hours and 40 minutes for his 130, which included 14 fours. Attewell and Sherwin bowled so well that in another 20 minutes the three remaining wickets were captured, and at four minutes to 7 Mr Robinson, at wicket, just managed to hold a catch from Hearne. Nottinghamshire won by an innings and 14 runs.

20 June: YORKSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3826.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 21 June, page 12)

Great disappointment was felt at Leeds yesterday that no start could be made in this match on the Headingley Ground. Rain fell heavily and early in the afternoon all hope of cricket was given up. Lord Hawke stands out of the Yorkshire eleven owing to illness, and the sides to-day will be as follows: . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 June, page 11)

There was an immense crowd of people at the Headingley Ground, Leeds, yesterday, when the Yorkshire v Surrey match began. Mr Shuter's good fortune in the matter of choice of innings was particularly valuable on this occasion, and Surrey batted at a time when the bowlers received the least assistance.

But the start was feeble and, although Mr W W Read made a few fine leg hits before he was third out at 33, five men were lost for 62. Subsequently there were valuable stands by Maurice Read and Henderson and by Mr Key and Brockwell for the sixth and eighth wickets, which each realized over 40 runs. Henderson and Read were both dismissed at 103, while at 151, from successive balls, Messrs Key and Clarke were taken at point.

When Yorkshire went in Lohmann bowled so effectively that five men were out for 30. Moorhouse, Tunnicliffe and Hayley improved matters, and after two hours the innings closed for 87. Surrey claimed a lead of 64, but at their second attempt they lost three good batsmen for 20 runs . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 June, page 11)

Surrey won yesterday after an exciting contest at the Headingley Ground, Leeds; the issue was reached within only three minutes of the time at which stumps are drawn. It was a bowlers' match, and the regret seemed general that a game attended with so much interest should have been played out on a ruined wicket. The turf was so heavy from Tuesday night's rain that no cricket was possible before luncheon.

Surrey, who were 84 on with seven batsmen in hand, resumed their innings at 20 minutes to 3, Peel and Wainwright bowling. Maurice Read and Lohmann were quickly out and, with half the side gone for 28, Mr Shuter and Henderson became partners. The former had two escapes in the long-field, and then scored freely. Henderson and his captain raised the score to 63, and both were eventually bowled. At five minutes past 4 Mr Shuter declared the innings at an end, and put Yorkshire in with rather more than two hours to play, while to win the home side had to make 146.

At first Lohmann bowled with great success, and with four men out for 21 Surrey seemed to have the match well in hand. But the Yorkshiremen had yet to make their bold bid for victory, and this nearly enabled them to avoid defeat. Moorhouse, who was missed, stayed while Wainwright batted vigorously, but at 51 the first-mentioned fell to mid-off. Tunnicliffe and Wainwright scored freely

until 74, when a fine running catch at long-on sent back the latter, who was warmly cheered for his excellent 44, and which were a five, three fours, five threes and four twos. So far Lohmann had taken all the six wickets.

Hayley and Tunnicliffe took the score to 97; further trouble was given by the partnership of Hayley and Fletcher, and when the ninth wicket fell the figures were 128 and only five minutes were left to play. Hunter, the last man, now arrived. He kept up his wicket, but Fletcher was taken at short-leg, and Surrey won by 17 runs after a remarkable match. The day held fine, and there were between 6,000 and 7,000 spectators of Yorkshire's first county defeat this season.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/125/125269.html)

Days 1 and 2 – no reports or scorecards found

Day 3 (report from Thursday 23 June, page 11)

After a very exciting match Leicestershire were victorious over Derbyshire at Leicester yesterday by one wicket. The proceeds of the game were devoted to the benefit fund on J Wheeler, the well-known professional, who has kept wicket for Leicestershire for a good many years.

23 June: LANCASHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3827.html)

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

Yesterday Surrey began a match with Lancashire, on the Old Trafford Ground. Mr A N Hornby is still away from the Lancashire eleven.

The home team went in first. After the disposal of Mr M'Laren a stand was made by Ward and Sugg. The score reached 41 in 70 minutes, and then Ward was stumped. With Smith in the game became much more lively, and in the course of three-quarters of an hour 50 runs were added. During the luncheon interval there was a thunderstorm, and the rain fell so heavily that no further cricket was possible.

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

There were further interruptions by the weather in this match at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, and the hours of cricket were again very limited. Lancashire, who had lost two men for 91, resumed batting to the attacks of Lohmann and Sharpe.

The latter quickly dismissed Smith, who, with Sugg, had offered stout resistance, for the third wicket. Briggs profited by an escape, but left at 138. Sugg played excellently, but the other batsmen were steadily ousted until 183 when the rain came and prevented further cricket.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 June, page 9)

For the third day the weather again limited the time for cricket to about an hour, and this fixture at Old Trafford, Manchester, was completely spoiled. Lancashire, who had made 183 for eight wickets, increased their first innings by 63 in the course of 40 minutes, most of these runs being obtained by Sugg, and then Mr Crosfield adopted the closure rule. Sugg, who was not out 107, batted a little on each of the three days, and his chief hits were nine fours, five threes and 16 twos.

Surrey went in for ten minutes and then the rain fell, and an unfortunate match was abandoned.

23 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3828.html)

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

Owing to the heavy rain no play was possible yesterday in this match, which should have begun at Lord's. A start will be made this morning at 11.30. . .

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

The Cambridge eleven began the last of their trial matches at Lord's yesterday when they met a strong Marylebone team captained by Dr W G Grace. Beautiful weather and plenty of good cricket were equally enjoyable to the large company.

Dr Grace on winning the toss decided to put Cambridge in. J T Hearne, who started the attack with Mr Ferris, bowled very effectively and seven of the Light Blues were out for 62, but Mr Wells and Mr Streatfeild showed some vigorous batting. The innings which lasted two hours and 40 minutes closed for 149. Hearne came out with a remarkably fine analysis, his seven wickets averaging only a little more than eight runs each.

Dr Grace and A Hearne made a capital start for Marylebone and Mr Murdoch showed much of his old form, cutting and driving with great brilliancy. A Hearne was fourth to leave at 167, caught by the wicket-keeper from a skier; his 64 occupied two and a half hours. To-day Cambridge have to face a majority of 180.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 June, page 9)

When Cambridge began their second innings at 11.40 on Saturday morning there were arrears of 80 to meet. Mr Ferris was unable to take part in the second day's play, and his bowling for the MCC was greatly missed.

Messrs J and R N Douglas started in brilliant style, and from J T Hearne the former made four cuts to the boundary. Seventy-nine were obtained in less than an hour, and then Mr R N Douglas fell to the wicket-keeper, while Mr J Douglas was out third in the same way at 83. The latter's 53 were secured in 65 minutes by seven fours, two threes, eight twos and three singles, and he played all the bowling easily except that from Dr Grace, who frequently puzzled the Light Blues. Wickets fell steadily, and after luncheon Latham was fifth to leave for a very patient 18, which had occupied an hour and a half. Mr Streatfeild hit vigorously, but with eight men gone for 206 Marylebone seemed to have the game in hand. Messrs Jephson and Gay, however, remained together three-quarters of an hour and put on 75. Mr Jephson, who was last out for an excellent 51, hit five fours, four threes and four twos.

Marylebone were left with 204 to score to win, and two hours and a quarter to play. Dr Grace and Mr Murdoch evidently started with the idea of achieving the feat, but with 16 on the board in ten minutes Dr Grace was caught at wicket, and eight runs later Mr Murdoch fell to point – a good catch. The game now took a decided turn in favour of Cambridge and, at a quarter past 6, seven Marylebone wickets were down for 106. Pougher and J T Hearne were now together and, although

Mr Jackson varied the bowling, these men in three-quarters of an hour put on 81, and when 7 o'clock was reached the MCC, with three wickets to fall, were only 16 runs behind. Pougher's 56 included one five (a drive), eight fours, two threes and three twos. Earlier in the innings Davidson had done well, and was only out to a remarkable return catch by Mr Jackson. The match was drawn . . .

23 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3829.html)

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

These counties met yesterday at Trent-bridge. Mr J A Dixon re-appeared as captain of the home team, in which a place was also found for Mr C W Wright. Mr L C H Palairt could not play for Somerset because of the University match at Brighton.

Heavy rain had fallen, and cricket could not begin until after 1 o'clock. Somerset went in first. They fared badly against the bowling of Attewell, and five men were out for 37. A return of the rain prevented any play after luncheon.

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

Great progress was made with this match at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, when the bowlers generally had the advantage. Somerset, who had lost five wickets for 37, completed their venture for an addition of 40 in three-quarters of an hour.

When Nottinghamshire went in Gunn and Shrewsbury played well and 50 appeared with only one man out, but at luncheon the change in the game had been so great that seven batsmen were lost for 72, and in 25 minutes after the interval the side were all out for 92.

When Somerset entered on their second innings brilliant hitting was shown by Messrs Hewett and Fowler, who in the course of three-quarters of an hour obtained 87 runs. Mr Fowler, who had been missed at mid-off before he had scored, then left, but Mr Hewett stayed half an hour longer and was out at 119 for 73, in which were eight fours, two threes and 11 twos. Attewell bowled effectively. The fine start of the visitors was followed by feebleness, and Nottinghamshire were left with only 145 to make for victory. They began the task and scored nine without mishap.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 June, page 9)

Nottinghamshire's victorious career remains unchecked. At Trent-bridge on Saturday afternoon they achieved their latest success, when they beat Somerset after a well-fought match.

The wicket had been so much a bowler's wicket that there seemed to exist an uncertainty as to the capability of Notts to get the 145 for victory, and this doubt received some justification when, on Saturday morning, three such batsmen as Shrewsbury, Gunn and Mr Wright were ousted by the time that the score had reached only 56. But Mr Dixon, the home captain, played splendidly, and his sole mistake was a hard chance to Mr Woods very early in the day. Barnes and Flowers both proved able partners for Mr Dixon; Barnes left at 91 and Flowers stayed till the finish. Mr Dixon took out his bat for 74; he was in two and a half hours and hit three fours, eight threes and ten twos. The subjoined score will show that Nottinghamshire won by six wickets.

23 June: SUSSEX v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3830.html)

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

Play was not begun on the Hove ground until 3 o'clock yesterday owing to the rain. From that time to 7, however, the game went on uninterruptedly.

Oxford went in first and were not dismissed for upwards of two hours. Mr Palairet and Mr Fry gave some trouble to the Sussex men. The Oxford captain was taken at mid-off for 51. Hide and Guttridge, who were put on to bowl at 71 and 90 respectively, met with such success that when the eighth wicket fell the figures were only 98. Free play by Messrs Wilson and Berkeley improved matters, and the innings closed for 146.

Sussex in an hour and a half did badly, despite the capital batting of Mr Newham, who was sixth to leave at 84, and Mr Brann.

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

Fine weather was experienced at Brighton yesterday, and a large company witnessed the excellent play at the Hove Ground.

Day 3 (report from Monday 27 June, page 9)

From beginning to end this match was finely contested, and produced an exciting finish. Overnight Sussex had been left with 61 to get for victory, and had four wickets to fall.

At the outset the dismissal of Hide and Humphreys for ten more runs pointed to an easy triumph for the Dark Blues. Mr Newham was now joined by Mr Dudney, and a stand for 27 was made before the latter played under a ball, which went into the hands of slip. With Tate in Mr Newham did his best to win, but Tate was bowled, and Oxford gained the victory by 10 runs. Mr Newham took out his bat for 65, in which were six fours, a three and four twos. His innings occupied two and a quarter hours.

27 June: KENT v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3831.html)

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

The Kent eleven were batting the greater part of yesterday at Gravesend, and scored heavily against Sussex. Indeed, during the three hours and 50 minutes of their innings runs averaged over 80 an hour.

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

Although the wicket gave the bowlers some assistance at Gravesend yesterday, it was not of that nature to warrant the febleness, with few exceptions, of the Sussex defence. Generally, the Sussex team can play a very good up-hill game; but in this instance they failed, and Kent, who had scored so heavily on the opening day, won by an innings and 109 runs.

27 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3832.html)

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

Beautiful cricket weather was experienced at Lord's yesterday, when good play proved plentiful and a numerous company congregated for the most part on the northern terraces nearest to which the wicket was pitched. It is Oxford's last trial match, and is confined, as usual, to two days.

Messrs Palaret and Jones opened well for the Dark Blues, and 54 were made in 40 minutes. But the running out of Mr Jones heralded a series of misfortunes for Oxford, whose captain returned the ball – a remarkable catch – while six men were eventually out for 79. Aided by the kindness of the Marylebone field the Oxford prospects now brightened. Mr Wood, Mr Brain and Mr Wilson all batted vigorously, and in 50 minutes after luncheon 50 runs were added for the last four wickets. Hearne bowled well and Mr Philipson was seen to advantage behind the stumps.

The early part of the Marylebone innings was characterized by the feebleness of the batting against Mr Wood's lobs, and two fine catches – viz., by Mr Palaret behind the bowler and the return held by Mr Wood. Half the side were out for 44, but at this stage Messrs Philipson and Stoddart got together and gave the Oxford men very great trouble. Mr Philipson played with great freedom, pulling and driving the bowlers repeatedly to the boundary. He passed Mr Stoddart's score at 46, and 82 were put on in 50 minutes before the partnership was severed by a fine running catch in the long field which dismissed Mr Stoddart, who had made 52; his chief hits were six fours.

Mr Vernon's stay extended over 40 minutes, during which he severely punished the lob bowler, from whom, however, he was finally taken at long-off. Mr Philipson continued to play freely until the 200 had gone up, soon after which his long innings was terminated by an easy catch at mid-off. He made his 71 in an hour and 35 minutes by ten fours, three threes, six twos and singles. The innings closed for 224, and Oxford to-day have to face a majority of 74.

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

The fine batting and the good play generally of the Dark Blues in this match at Lord's will be very pleasing to Oxford men. Indeed this game has left the impression that their fixture to-morrow and subsequent days with Cambridge will furnish a much better fight than at one time seemed likely.

Yesterday morning at a quarter to 12 Messrs Jones and Phillips began the visitors' second innings. Runs were scored at a very fast rate, and in an hour and a half 140 were recorded. Mr Jones was then bowled for 63, a capital display of all-round hitting. His chief items were eight fours, three threes and five twos. Mr Fry gave little trouble and at 168 Mr Phillips was well caught in the long field for 90, a splendid innings, characterized by fine driving. It lasted two hours and embraced 14 fours, four threes and four twos. When Mr Case came in Mr Jardine was badly missed by Mr Vernon at mid-off, and this error proved very expensive to the Club.

After luncheon Mr Case was well caught at slip, but Messrs Hill and Jardine threw great vigour into their batting, and 87 were put on in less than an hour. Mr Jardine was fifth to leave at 286, well caught at slip. He was in an hour and a half, and hit a five, nine fours, a three and three twos. At 324 Mr Hill, in trying to drive, was clean bowled. The chief features of his 52 were seven fours, a

three and four twos. Oxford were all out by 4.35, their average rate of scoring having been over 80 an hour. Mr Palairt, in consequence of an injured knee, did not go in.

When Marylebone batted a second time Messrs Stoddart and Webbe scored 55 in half an hour, but the Dark Blues, fielding well, soon put a different complexion on affairs, and by 6 o'clock half the home side had gone for 79. Mr Stoddart secured 60 out of 77 in less than an hour; he hit the lob bowler out of the ground over the grand stand for six, and made seven fours and four threes.

Wickets fell rapidly, and at a quarter to 7 nine were down for 141. Subsequently Rawlin and Geeson not only kept up their wickets but scored freely. The game was extended 15 minutes beyond the usual hour, yet the Oxford men could not separate the batsmen, and the match was left drawn. Geeson, however, should have been stumped. Among the best features of the game were the many fine catches made by the Dark Blues, Messrs Hill, Jardine and Palairt especially distinguishing themselves.

27 June: SURREY v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3833.html)

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

Fully 8,000 people visited Kennington-oval yesterday to see the opening day's cricket in this match. The pitch at the outset perhaps assisted the bowlers in a slight degree, but it rapidly became true, and Gloucestershire ought certainly to have done better than go out in two hours and a half for 143.

Lockwood's early bowling was the cause of the disastrous manner in which the western county began their first innings. His analysis up to the time of the dismissal of half the side for 21 read thus – five overs, two maidens, five runs, four wickets. Dr W G Grace played on at 35, and so far the innings had lasted little more than three-quarters of an hour.

Captain Luard put a better aspect on the visitors' game. He batted well against the formidable bowling, and was much aided by Mr Rice, who stayed while 46 were put on, and Board, whose assistance produced 30 for the last wicket. Captain Luard remained not out for an excellent 75 scored out of 108 added during the hour and 20 minutes of his innings. Richardson, the fast bowler, who has met with considerable success in some of Surrey's smaller engagements, was included in the home eleven in place of Sharpe, but his services were not called upon to any extent, as Lohmann and Lockwood did most of the bowling.

When Surrey went in Mr Read was soon out, after which Abel and Lohmann ran up the score from 29 to 97. Abel was bowled for 45. Lohmann, who was twice missed towards the close of his innings, fell to a catch in the long field at 107; he made six fours, two threes and four twos. After Mr Shuter had gone Maurice Read and Henderson added 97 in an hour for the fifth wicket, which fell at 238, Read playing on. It should be noted that Mr J J Ferris, the Australian, appears for Gloucestershire for the first time.

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

In spite of the unevenness of Monday night's scores the interest in this game at the Oval was quite up to the average yesterday, when about 6,000 people were present. Surrey, who with five wickets in hand were already 106 ahead, resumed their innings at 11.35.

Henderson made some fine hits. No one stayed with him any great length of time excepting Mr Key, who was in three-quarters of an hour for 10, and the last five batsmen were steadily dismissed, mostly by Mr Ferris. Surrey completed their innings at half-past 1 for 326. Henderson who had been in three hours took out his bat for 74; he made five fours, three threes and 12 twos.

Gloucestershire were now 183 behind. Dr E M Grace batted in quite his old form and made 41 of 69 in about an hour. Five men were lost for 110, Dr W G Grace having been fourth to leave, caught at slip. Then came a fine stand by Captain Luard and Painter, and little more than an hour's partnership of these players produced 88 runs. Both Painter and Captain Luard were out at 198, the latter being caught at mid-off; there were eight fours among his figures. Gloucestershire finished their innings at 6.25, and Surrey had not a very difficult task to perform to secure the victory. Seventeen had been scored at the drawing of stumps.

Mr Clarke was injured during the visitors' innings; Watts who came out as substitute was allowed to keep wicket, in which position he made three catches. Richardson bowled very well.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 June, page 11)

Yesterday, at the Oval, Surrey quickly won their match against Gloucestershire. After the storm of the previous night the pitch was heavy, and two batsmen were dismissed before the necessary runs were obtained. From the score subjoined it will be seen that Surrey gained the victory by eight wickets.

27 June: YORKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3834.html)

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

More than average interest attached to yesterday's meeting at Bramall-lane, Sheffield, because of the high position held by the sides in the county results. The visitors were very strongly represented, but Yorkshire lacked the services of Lord Hawke, Mr F S Jackson and Mr E Smith. There was a very large crowd on the ground, and during the intervals caused by the rain a numerous body of the spectators became somewhat abusive to the Nottinghamshire team.

Yorkshire won the toss and took first innings, and, after Ulyett's early dismissal, the batsmen for a time fared well. Hall and Mounsey put on 40 runs for the second wicket, and at luncheon the record was 62 for two. A shower lengthened the interval, and with the score at 83 for four wickets rain caused a delay of more than an hour and a half. Yorkshire's six outstanding batsmen were dismissed for an addition of 53, indeed the last five obtained only 29 runs. Attewell bowled remarkably well.

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

The struggle between these counties still proves keen, and yesterday's exciting play at the Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, was closely followed by a crowd of some 6,000 people. Bad weather delayed the resumption for an hour and a half, and even when Yorkshire entered the field the light was by no means favourable for batting.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 30 June, page 11)

Considerable disappointment was felt at Sheffield yesterday when it was found that the storm of Tuesday night had left the ground in such a bad state that this game, at a very interesting stage, had to be drawn.

27 June: WARWICKSHIRE v LANCASHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128130.html)

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

On the county ground, Edgbaston, Birmingham, yesterday, the Lancashire eleven were seen to great advantage. Sugg followed up his three-figure innings against Surrey with a further 100; but in this instance he gave two easy chances, being missed at point from the first ball sent him, while at 89 he should have been stumped.

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

In this match at Birmingham yesterday the Lancashire bowlers carried all before them, and eventually Warwickshire were beaten by an innings and 105 runs.

30 June: NORTH v SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3835.html)

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

Some three or four thousand spectators yesterday witnessed the opening of this match, played under the auspices of the Warwickshire County Club at Birmingham. There were various good points in the play, of which the North had the better and left off at the end of the day with a substantial advantage. Ward, Shrewsbury and Mr Docker did fairly well in batting, but the Southerners failed on the slow wicket before the bowling of Briggs and Mold.

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

Following on with a definite of 93, the South at Birmingham yesterday played a capital up-hill game and set their rivals 145 to make for victory. Mr Murdoch carried off the batting honours with an excellent 71; he was in two and a half hours and obtained five fours, four threes and 11 twos. The North went in a second time . . .

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

At the close of Friday evening at Birmingham the North, with nine wickets in hand, wanted 101 runs to win. On Saturday morning Shrewsbury and Mr de Trafford were soon out, and three wickets were down for 63; but a long stand by Gunn and Mr Docker soon placed the result beyond doubt, and in the end the North won by six wickets. Mr Docker was in an hour and ten minutes, but Gunn occupied two hours in making his 63, which included four fours, four threes and five twos.

30 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3836.html)

Thursday 30 June, page 11

At Lord's to-day the annual match between the Universities begins. The teams are as follows: -

Oxford. – Messrs L C H Palairret, Oriel (captain); T B Case, Magdalen; W H Brain, Oriel; G F H Berkeley, Keble; M R Jardine, Balliol; J B Wood, Balliol; T S B Wilson, Trinity; V T Hill, Oriel; R T Jones, New; F A Phillips, Exeter; and C B Fry, Wadham. The first five mentioned are Old Blues, Messrs Hill, Jones, Wilson and Wood are Seniors, while Messrs Phillips and Fry are Freshmen from Rossall and Repton.

Cambridge. – Messrs F S Jackson, Trinity (captain); R N Douglas, Selwyn; G J V Weigall, Emmanuel; C M Wells, Trinity; E C Streatfeild, Pembroke; A J L Hill, Jesus; D L A Jephson, Peterhouse; L H Gay, Clare; H R Bromley-Davenport, Trinity Hall; J Douglas, Selwyn; and P H Latham, Pembroke. There are only four of these players who did not appear at Lord's last year – viz., Messrs Latham and J Douglas, Freshmen, from Malvern and Dulwich, and the two Seniors, Messrs Gay and Bromley-Davenport.

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

Cricket prophecy is dangerous, and the University match of 1892 seems likely to inflict a sharp lesson on those who for weeks past have talked of the match as a “certainty” for Cambridge. Cricket is, of course, notoriously uncertain, but it is difficult to remember an instance of a side in this country going in against 365 and then winning the match.

Yesterday at Lord's proved in many ways a wonderful day's cricket. Oxford's friends must have been a little crestfallen as they saw the first two men, upon whom much dependence had been placed, go without the scoring of a run. But a great change was at hand. Fortune veered completely round and three partners of Mr Jardine's – Messrs Fry, Case and Hill – stayed while 75, 71 and 178 were made for the third, fifth and sixth wickets. Cambridge grew bewildered as Mr Hill's left-handed boundary drives followed each other with such a punishing repetition, and after he had escaped at 64 the hitting was rated among the best that can be remembered of University matches.

But the first place belongs to the superb innings of Mr Jardine, last year's captain; he arrived at a stage when steadiness and nerve were necessary to prevent the collapse of the Oxford eleven, and, having foiled Mr Streatfeild's attempt to “york” him first ball, he played with soundness and finish throughout his stay of four and three-quarter hours. The most vigilant watcher of his cricket found it difficult to detect a flaw in his innings. Cambridge appeared a little slow to grasp the idea of putting a man on the leg side for him. It may be noted that Mr Jardine failed to reach by only three Mr K J Key's highest score in the University game, and that only once before, also in 1886, have there been two individual scores of 100 and upwards in any one innings of Oxford v Cambridge. This feat of Oxford is not dissimilar to that of Key and Rashleigh's year (1886) when the former scored 143 and the latter 107, while the 365 is the second highest aggregate ever furnished by this fixture; the best is 388 by Cambridge in 1872.

In the early day the wicket slightly aided the bowlers, but it rapidly improved. Cambridge fielded excellently until well into the third hundred, and then there were various mistakes, the most marked being the grievous errors of Messrs Latham, Jephson and Weigall. Mr Gay proved a first-rate wicket-keeper and gave only ten byes in an innings of 365, apart from which he made three catches. It must not be forgotten that the Light Blues have plenty of batting, and with the wicket true and a promise of fine weather their uphill fight will be watched with great interest.

The scene at Lord's yesterday afternoon was as gay as it usually is at this match; and, although the weather was occasionally dull, the spells of brightness preponderated. The attendance was estimated at 20,000, more than half of which number paid at the turnstiles, while members and their friends were responsible for the rest. North and south the terraces were closely filled; "Knatchbull's corner" was set apart for the Coaching Clean bowled, while the Four-in-hand members congregated on the terraces in the south-east.

Before giving some details of yesterday's play it may be mentioned that the cricketers fresh to the match are Messrs Fry, Jones, Phillips, Hill, Wood and Wilson, of Oxford; and Messrs J Douglas, Latham, Gay and Bromley-Davenport, of Cambridge.

Oxford won the toss, and Palairet and Jones opened the innings at five minutes past 12. To Jackson's bowling the field was as follows: - Gay, wicket; Latham, cover-point; Wells, slip; Hill, mid-on; Streatfeild, extra slip; Bromley-Davenport, long-slip; Weigall, mid-off; Jephson, long-off; R N Douglas, third man; J Douglas, point.

The Dark Blues lost their captain for the fourth ball of the match, Gay catching him at wicket low down on the off-side. Fry arrived, and Streatfeild bowled from the pavilion end with his field thus: - Gay, wicket; Latham, mid-off; Wells, slip; Jackson, cover-point; Hill, mid-on; Bromley-Davenport, extra slip; Weigall, extra mid-off; Jephson, third man; R N Douglas, long-on; J Douglas, point. Oxford's first misfortune was quickly followed by a second, for Jones, after surviving one appeal for leg-before, got his leg in front of a straight ball, and thus were two Oxford men gone without the scoring of a run.

Fry and Jardine were now together. The batsmen were cautious, and the only item of scoring during the first 20 minutes was a capital cut for four by Fry. During the next few overs the Oxford prospect brightened. Jardine made four and three by leg hits, while a short ball from Streatfeild was played to the square-leg boundary by Fry. Then came another four by Jardine – a cut – and in this way 26 runs were obtained in a quarter of an hour. Another loose ball from Streatfeild was sent to the leg boundary by Fry, so at 39 that bowler gave way to Wells. Fry made a bad stroke towards cover-point; but the figures rose steadily, and at 46 Cambridge gave their fast left-hand man a trial in place of Jackson.

These changes greatly lessened the rate of scoring. Both batsmen played the fast bowler carefully; but, after the 50 had gone up within the hour, Jardine drove him to the off boundary. There were then a few good hits and a dangerous stroke in the slips by Fry, but generally the batsmen exercised every care, and at 64 Jackson went on himself, this time at the pavilion end. Jardine cut him for four, which proved the best item for some little time. Fry completed his 40 in an hour and ten minutes, and directly afterwards Jephson at third man received applause for a clever piece of fielding. Still runs came steadily, and Streatfeild went on at the Nursery end. In the next over, however, the separation was effected, a very good catch at wicket sending back Fry. It had been an invaluable partnership, and in the hour and a quarter of its duration 75 runs were obtained. Fry's 44 included three fours, two threes and six twos. Three down.

Phillips arrived, and snicked the first ball through the slips for three. Bromley-Davenport soon afterwards bowled, and at once got Phillips caught at point, the batsman misjudging the ball, which he tried to get round to leg. Four for 86. Case joined Jardine, who played with great care, and at luncheon time the record was 90.

The interval lasted nearly an hour, and when the game was renewed at five minutes to 3 the wind blew freshly from the north-west, with the weather dull and threatening. Jackson and Bromley-Davenport were the bowlers. Jardine made three of the leg side, and then with a cut for four brought up the 100 shortly after 3 o'clock. Subsequently Jardine sent a full-pitched ball from Jackson to leg for four, and played the other bowler in the same way for three. Jardine completed his 50 by a beautiful cut for four, the ball reaching the boundary after some of its pace had been lessened by J Douglas at point. The game had been very lively since luncheon, and there was plenty of good fielding.

Case survived a rather confident appeal for leg-before to Bromley-Davenport. During the next quarter of an hour the best strokes were two fours (a drive and a cut by Case) and a three (a cut by Jardine), and at 1.30 Hill displaced Bromley-Davenport. Jardine drove the new bowler to the boundary, while, when J Douglas came on, Case promptly sent the ball for four. Runs were made at a rapid rate, and the changes in the bowling had accelerated the Scarborough Festival. Each batsman made various drives and cuts for four, and at 157 Jackson put on Wells at the pavilion end and went on himself at the other. The Cambridge captain at once caught and bowled Case; in a little over an hour the stand had realized 71, of which the retiring batsman contributed a capital 29. Five for 157.

Hill joined Jardine, who made a beautiful leg hit for four from Jackson. Hill scored six in two hits from Wells and, crossing over, he sent Jackson to the leg boundary. Still the batting triumphed. Jardine made a couple of fours and a two on the leg side from Wells, so that, at 188, Bromley-Davenport was put on at the Pavilion end while Streatfeild tried his hand opposite. But nothing could stay the rate of run-getting that had set in, and Hill, the left-handed player, but a couple of hard drives sent up 200 at 4.20. Many fine hits were further recorded by both batsmen, but Oxford interest now centred on the question of the 100 by Jardine, who had already passed 90. Hill for a time got most of the bowling, and he did not lose any opportunity of urging on the record, hitting all round in fine style and reaching 50 by a very fine drive to the boundary after a stay of only 40 minutes. Jardine's figures remained on 93 for a very long time; three singles were well run, and when he had made 97 there was an appeal for leg-before against him by Jackson. Then a prolonged round of cheers greeted the completion of his 100, which was secured by a cut for four. Three hours and 40 minutes had been taken by Jardine in making his three figures out of the total of 247.

J Douglas next went on, and in his first over Hill was missed at long-on by Latham, who dropped the ball after getting back and judging the catch pretty well. Some excitement was caused by Hill making 16 from the first four balls of an over by J Douglas; three were drives and one a cut, and from all the former the ball went to the pavilion seats. Hill endeavoured to hit the last also for four, but he narrowly escaped being caught at cover-point. Almost immediately Hill, who had then made 96, was badly missed by Jephson at long-on. The 300 was telegraphed at ten minutes past 5, the last 100 having been obtained in 50 minutes. Hill continued his great hitting and completed his 100 after a stay of an hour and 20 minutes. He batted with great vigour, but Weigall misjudged in the long field what should have been another catch from him. Hill stayed to make a few further hits, and then, at 335, skied the ball to cover-point. In the hour and 35 minutes of the partnership 178 runs had been put on, and of these 114 were credited to Hill, whose dashing innings roused the

spectators to a high pitch of enthusiasm, which gave itself full vent as the batsman retired to the pavilion. His 114 comprised 18 fours, seven threes, five twos and 13 singles.

Wood soon fell to a splendid catch at mid-off, Brain was well caught at wicket, and then Jardine's splendid innings was closed at 360. He went forward, played right outside a good ball from Streatfeild and was clean bowled. It was a faultless innings, extending over four hours and three-quarters, and inclusive of 21 fours, five threes and six twos. Wilson was quickly bowled, and just before 6 o'clock Oxford were all out for 365. They had been batting five hours.

Cambridge began their second innings at 6.25 with the brothers Douglas. Palairret deputed Wood with his lobs to start the attack; there were five men in the deep field, while Brain kept wicket, Berkeley was mid-on, Wilson mid-off, Jones cover-point and Case short leg. Berkeley bowled from the pavilion end with the field thus: - Brain, wicket; Fry, point; Phillips, third man; Hill, slip; Palairret, extra slip; Wood, mid-on; Jones, cover-point; Wilson, extra mid-off; Jardine, mid-off; and Case, long-on.

J Douglas made four and three by cuts, but in each instance the ball should have been fielded by Phillips. Rapidly the figures went to 17, and then J Douglas tamely played into the hands of mid-off, and Cambridge lost R N Douglas directly afterwards – bowled by a lob. Weigall and Latham played steadily. Wilson and Palairret took up the bowling, but no further wicket fell, and the figures at the close were 34. Cambridge, with two men out, are 331 behind.

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

The phases through which this game at Lord's has already passed illustrate once more the proverbial uncertainty of cricket. Late in the afternoon of yesterday the fine batting of Messrs Latham and Streatfeild checked the tide of success which had been running strongly and steadily for Oxford, and, while earlier in the day an utter rout seemed to be in store for the Light Blues, the late afternoon witnessed a very different aspect of affairs.

One hundred and nine runs on and five batsmen in hand (with very little tail) places Cambridge on a footing hopeful, if not promising, if compared with that occupied by them in their first innings. For a long time, indeed, the Dark Blues kept the game well in hand, and five men were out in the second innings while Cambridge were still 26 behind. But the last hour and a quarter witnessed the splendid batting of Messrs Latham and Streatfeild, who mastered the bowling so completely that, in spite of brilliant fielding, 75 minutes yielded 135 runs.

Throughout the day Oxford never relaxed their efforts, the fielding of Mr Jardine standing out prominently, even amid much that was excellent. The wicket was fast and true, and late last night showed few signs of having had nearly 850 runs scored on it. There was much similarity between yesterday and the opening day in the matter of weather; there was, perhaps, a little more warmth, and the occasional dullness was followed by bright spells of greater length. Upwards of 20,000 people were present (1,000 more paid for admission than on the opening day), and after the company had recovered from the indifferent play of Cambridge in the morning they became rapidly enthusiastic as the Light Blues fought well their uphill fight.

Play was resumed at 11.35, the not-outs, Weigall and Latham, being opposed by Wood and Berkeley. Weigall made a four from each end, but at 49 Latham was quite baffled by a lob and retired, clean bowled. The Cambridge captain joined Weigall, who was playing remarkably well,

and very soon both batsmen were scoring at a steady rate. Twenty-five were added in a quarter of an hour, and then Wilson displaced Berkeley, who bowled a few overs from the Nursery wicket. Jackson, after a couple of dangerous strokes, drove Berkeley twice for four, but Phillips should have saved the first of these. With Wood on again Jackson scored four by a fine drive and brought up the 100 at 12.25. Palairet went of himself at 102. When matters were going pretty well for Cambridge and the men were thoroughly set some terrible blunders occurred. Weigall cut a ball to point, who only partially stopped it, and the players started for a run, but as the striker saw the ball being picked up by cover point (Wilson) he went back. By this time Jackson was at Weigall's end and a bad return by Wilson gave either man plenty of time to run to the Pavilion end. Neither would stir and the ball was gently thrown to Palairet, who put Jackson's wicket down. Both batsmen were at fault, but the greater blame attached to Weigall. The partnership had realized 58 in the course of three-quarters of an hour.

This error had been bad for Cambridge, but the event which followed was much worse. Wells came in, cut the first ball – a lob – slowly to point, started for a single and was run out with the greatest ease. Thus all at once the character of the game greatly changed. Nor were the misfortunes of the Light Blues even now at an end. Streatfeild stayed a few overs and made several good strokes, but at 115 he played outside a ball from Berkeley and was clean bowled. The Cambridge batsmen seemed quite bewildered by these blunders. Indeed, they showed exceeding want of judgment. Hill, who was eighth on the order, played a ball tamely to Palairet behind the bowler and called to Weigall. The Oxford captain gently pitched the ball on to the wicket, and the result, of course, was that another man was run out. Seven for 122.

Jephson joined Weigall, who, after the former had escaped stumping at the hands of Brain, completed his 50 within a few minutes of 1 o'clock. Berkeley soon bowled Jephson's off stump down, and Gay, after cutting the ball for four, played on to Wood immediately the lob bowler was tried at the Nursery end. Nine for 140. Bromley-Davenport, the last man, arrived. Weigall did not appreciate the lobs, and of three full pitches he was only able to score from one. Bromley-Davenport hit with a courage which had been conspicuous for its absence on the part of some of the previous batsmen; he made cuts for four and three from Wilson, but when Berkeley again bowled he quickly left and Cambridge were all out by 1.35 for 160. Weigall took out his bat for 63; he was in rather more than two hours, and his chief hits were eight fours, five threes and a two. Berkeley and Wood had bowled very successfully.

The follow-on was begun with arrears of 205, and a couple of overs were bowled by Wood and Berkeley in the second innings before luncheon. Weigall, the not-out, and J Douglas opened the batting, and at the adjournment the record showed two runs and no wicket.

At five minutes to 3 the game was resumed. The batsmen played the lobs much better and, getting into them, met with far more success than in the first innings. Fielding on the boundary, at deep square leg, Jardine saved three runs by a brilliant return which did not pass unnoticed by the spectators. J Douglas got Wood well around to leg for four, and at 15 Wilson was given a trial at the Pavilion end. At this time there were plenty of good hits, but the fine fielding kept the runs down. A fine cut to the boundary was now made by Mr Douglas, but previously some little anxiety had been noticed by the supporters of Cambridge on account of an extremely risky run which seemed likely to cost Douglas his wicket. However, at 28, Douglas misjudged a ball from Wilson and his off stump came to grief. Some 55 minutes had been occupied in scoring these runs.

With the arrival of R N Douglas Palairet at once put the lob bowler on, and the new batsman was twice in much danger of being bowled. Having obtained nine in an hour, Weigall seemed to give a

chance to the wicket-keeper, but directly afterwards he obtained five from a cut (very well run) and also scored four by a similar stroke from Wood. Douglas played Wilson cleverly to leg for four, and this was followed up by other good strokes from both batsmen. Fine fielding (notably by Jardine) was still a characteristic of the Oxford team. Berkeley and Palairret having taken up the bowling, Weigall, in trying to hit to square leg, skied the ball, delivered by the latter, and was caught by the wicket-keeper. He had been in an hour and a quarter for 25 runs. Two for 69.

Wells came next and, while he batted with great care, his partner scored with considerable freedom; he made one fine leg hit for four from Wood, who had gone on at 82 at the Pavilion end, and this and a fine piece of fielding by Jardine, and a boundary drive by Wells, were the features most applauded for some time. Further variations were made in the attack, but the 100 went up at a quarter to 5. Wells, however, left at 123 – caught at slip; he and Douglas had put on 44. With Jackson in, Douglas reached his 50; but his end was near, for at 136, in playing back to a ball that was well up, he was clean bowled by Wilson. In an hour and a half he had scored 51, an innings of great excellence, in which were five fours, two threes and five twos.

Latham joined Jackson, who played in fine forward form. The 150 was reached at 5.20. Palairret, who was now bowling at the Nursery end, was driven for four by both batsmen, 23 runs being put on in 12 minutes. Berkeley now relieved his captain and, for the first time in the match, Fry was put on at the Pavilion end. Latham made a beautiful drive for four, but at 179 Jackson was beaten by a ball from Berkeley, which he endeavoured to get round to leg, and, missing it, had his off stump struck. The Cambridge captain had played very well for 35.

Streatfeild arrived to the aid of Latham, whose driving was particularly clean, while during Jackson's stay he had once played the draw, a stroke rarely seen in modern cricket. Wood's lobs were again tried at 198, but Streatfeild drove him for two and made a four on the leg side in the same over. The 200 was passed and a moment later a single by Latham cleared off the arrears, a circumstance which was greeted with loud applause from all parts of the ground. Streatfeild drove Fry twice to the off boundary and, with runs coming so quickly, Palairret took a turn at the Pavilion end and gave Wilson a trial from the Nursery end. The batsmen played freely and well, but Streatfeild displayed the more vigorous form and rapidly overtook Latham. There were plenty of fine strokes at both ends, and the scoring became so rapid that Jones superseded Berkeley. A couple of sharp singles were unnecessarily risked, after which came two fine fours by Streatfeild from Berkeley and a pretty leg hit to the boundary by Latham. The company grew very enthusiastic as Cambridge forged ahead. Berkeley made a good attempt to hold a hard return from Streatfeild, but he could get only one hand to the ball. Then Streatfeild completed his 50, while directly afterwards Latham reached the same figure, amid loud cheering. During the first hour of this partnership, 100 runs were added.

Wood's lobs were again tried at the Pavilion wicket, but they were a good deal punished, various fours being obtained from them. There was another loud burst of applause as the 300 appeared at ten minutes to 7. An ill-judged run nearly cost Streatfeild his wicket. Hill and Palairret now shared the bowling. The closing stroke of the day was a fine drive by Latham to the boundary, the batsmen being still unseparated when stumps were drawn. They came in for a great reception.

The nature of the cricket of these two gentlemen may be gathered from the fact that in an hour and 20 minutes 135 runs were added. Latham played in that excellent manner which so impressed those who saw him get his two big scores against Surrey at the Oval, while Streatfeild's hitting was hard and clean. Cambridge are now 109 on with five wickets to fall.

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

Oxford beat Cambridge at Lord's on Saturday afternoon by the substantial majority of five wickets. It was a match full of exciting incidents, sustaining the interest to the very end and giving success to a side in which before the start few could have believed there was so much fine cricket. To the fielding of Oxford in no small degree their victory is due, while Mr Jardine's batting was also a brilliant feature. He scored the highest aggregate – i.e., 179 – ever secured in the University match.

Cambridge played a wonderful uphill match, and their score of 388 ties the highest innings hitherto made in Oxford v Cambridge, credited to the latter in 1872. At one time on Saturday there seemed a fair prospect of success for them; but when Messrs Streatfeild and Latham's long partnership came to an end the remaining batsmen somewhat disappointed expectations, the last four wickets falling for a fraction of over nine runs each. But even now Oxford had hard work in order to win; 184, in the fourth innings of a match played with such keenness, was a severe feat to accomplish, but the fine play of Mr Palaret, the Oxford captain, on both sides of the wicket, rapidly put the issue out of doubt.

This remarkable match, in which there were three individual innings of over 100 and 1,100 runs were scored, only ended within an hour and three-quarters of the close of the third day. There were about 13,000 spectators on Saturday, while in the three days the number of those only who paid for admission reached 30,338.

Cambridge, who had made 314 for five wickets, resumed their batting at 11.35, Wood and Berkeley bowling to the not outs, Streatfeild (81) and Latham (61). Streatfeild got a couple of fours to leg from the lob bowler, following which came a few sharp singles. There was a loud cheer as Streatfeild with a four (a bad hit through the slips) completed his 100. Latham should have been caught at wicket, but the escape mattered little, for, when the lobs were tried at the Pavilion end, he was smartly caught at mid-on by Berkeley, who took the ball wide with his right hand. In an hour and 55 minutes of the partnership 171 runs had been obtained. Latham had played splendid cricket and his chief hits were eight fours, a three and six twos. Six for 350.

With Hill in Palaret at once took off the lob bowler, and Wilson came on. Streatfeild's end was now close at hand, for, when the Oxford total had been equalled, he drove the ball hard to mid-off, where it was well held by Palaret. His great innings of 116 had extended over two hours and five minutes, and was an almost faultless performance. His chief hits were 16 fours, two threes and six twos. Jephson stayed a few overs, but played the lobs badly, and was leg before to them at 372. Eight down. Gay and Hill could do little with the bowling, the former being caught at 379 by Jardine running from behind the bowler. Bromley-Davenport, the last man, arrived, and escaped being run out in the narrowest manner, only, however, to be caught a few minutes later by Jardine. Thus the Cambridge innings, which had lasted five hours and 40 minutes, closed for 388.

The task which Oxford had set them was to score 184 to win. At half-past 1 Phillips and Jones began the batting. Jackson opened the bowling, and in the first over Phillips was easily caught at slip. Jardine who came in, after surviving an appeal for leg-before, made two threes on the leg side and a cut also for three. Jones sent a full pitch from Streatfeild to the on boundary for four, but, with 17 on the board, he cut a ball to R N Douglas, fielding at third man, and started for a run; but, turning back, he stumbled and before he could recover his ground the wicket had been put down by Gay. Two for 17. Berkeley took the vacant place.

After luncheon, Jackson and Streatfeild were again the bowlers. Berkeley played freely and a steady rate of scoring set in. Jardine obtained four by a square-leg hit from Jackson, and at 41 Bromley-Davenport relieved his captain. Jardine, with a fine four to leg, brought up 50 at 3.25, after which Berkeley made three and four by on drives from Wells. Jackson now tried his bowling at the pavilion end and quickly met with success, for, after six had been made from him by Berkeley, an excellent catch, high up and wide on the off side at the wicket, dismissed Jardine. Three for 73. Jardine, for the second time, had done well, and his two scores gave him the highest individual aggregate for the University match.

Palairet arrived and opened his account vigorously, making 11 in three hits (two drives and a cut). Within a few minutes of 4 o'clock, just half the runs had been secured. At 98 Berkeley, playing right across a good ball from Jackson, was clean bowled. His runs were the result of capital play. Four for 98.

Fry came in, and the interest of the spectators grew keen as the prospect of a good finish again appeared. Palairet brought the 100 up at 4.10 with a drive for a couple, after which Fry obtained three by a snick to leg. Each batsman obtained four by a leg hit, and at 121 Wells again took the ball. In the next over Palairet made a lofty drive in the long field, and R N Douglas might have caught him, but he misjudged the ball and four runs were scored. After this Palairet hit out with great vigour. He drove each bowler to the boundary, and then with nine in an over from Wells reached 50 at a quarter to 5, the total then standing at 144. Jackson once more took the ball at 148, but Fry cut him for four and the 150 went up. Three cuts for four each (two by Fry) were recorded, and then at 169 Jackson bowled Fry's off stump out of the ground. Seventy-one had been added in 50 minutes, and this partnership had almost placed the result beyond doubt, for only 15 runs were required to win.

With Case as his partner, Palairet made cuts for four and three, which tied the scores. A ball then went for four byes, and Oxford won by five wickets at a quarter past 5. Palairet took out his bat for 71, which had been obtained in an hour and a half. His chief hits were 11 fours, two threes and four twos. A large body of the spectators gathered in front of the pavilion at the finish of the match and warmly cheered the winners.

The results of Oxford v Cambridge matches are – matches played 58, Cambridge 29 wins, Oxford 26, and three drawn games.

30 June: SCOTLAND v SURREY (not first-class)

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

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

Yesterday, on the ground of the Grange Club, Edinburgh, the first of the couple of new and attractive matches added to the Surrey programme was begun, the champion county of 1891 meeting an eleven representative of Scotland. The wicket was in fine order, and the visitors, having the good fortune to win the toss, retained possession of it during the whole of cricketing hours, and completed a first innings of 391.

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

On a good wicket at Edinburgh yesterday, Scotland fared badly against the bowling of Lohmann and Lockwood. Surrey, getting their opponents twice out with considerable ease, won by an innings and 247 runs. Mr M'Gregor, in consequence of the death of his brother, took no part in yesterday's play. Lohmann injured his hand in stopping a return during the home side's second innings.

Tuesday 5 July, page 11: THE CRICKETER'S FUND FRIENDLY SOCIETY

Last night at Lord's the annual general meeting of this society was presided over by Mr W E Denison, the president of the Marylebone Club. There was a good attendance of members, and there were also present Mr Henry Perkins, the secretary of the MCC, and Mr A J W Biddulph.

The balance-sheet showed the society to be in a highly satisfactory financial position, but it was decided to invite the county clubs to become subscribers to the fund. Mr Perkins referred to the recent "instructions to umpires" issued by the Marylebone Club, and impressed upon umpires the necessity of looking well after bowlers whose deliveries aroused any suspicion of unfairness.

4 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3837.html)

Monday 4 July, page 10

Two changes have been made in the [sides], which were announced in The Times of Saturday for this match at Lord's to-day. Mr M'Gregor is succeeded by Mr H Philipson as wicket-keeper for the Gentlemen. Mr Gay, who played so well for Cambridge, was asked, but could not accept the invitation of the Marylebone Club, as he was going with the Light Blues to Dublin. Abel plays for Lohmann, whose hand was injured in Surrey v Scotland, at Edinburgh.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 5 July, page 11)

About 10,000 people assembled at Lord's yesterday to witness the opening day's play of the great test of the year between the amateurs and professionals. Everything was favourable for play – the weather was very fine and there was a fast and true turf. Two fine sides had been selected by the Marylebone executive, but a change in each was rendered necessary: Mr M'Gregor and Lohmann were unable to play, and were succeeded by Mr Philipson and Abel. The visit of the Cambridge eleven to Dublin prevented any of the Light Blues from taking part in the match. The Players gave the Gentlemen a severe day's fielding; the three Nottinghamshire men carried off the honours in batting, and have so far contributed 262.

Shrewsbury and Abel started well for the Players. Forty-six were obtained in 20 minutes, and although the attack was varied, the first hour produced 84. Mr Woods, who had at first bowled from the pavilion end, had gone on at the nursery, and this alteration proved effective, as at 97 he completely beat Abel. The partnership had lasted an hour and ten minutes. Gunn arrived and, after making four, should have been very easily stumped by Mr Philipson, who failed to take a slow ball from Dr Grace. For some time afterwards Gunn played with very little precision, but Shrewsbury showed his usual skill. At luncheon the record stood 132.

Messrs Nepean and Ferris had charge of the attack after the interval. Gunn settled down and played excellently, making many fine cuts and drives. Subsequently Gunn was nearly bowled by Mr Nepean, whom, however, he soon drove to the off-boundary, and Mr Woods and Dr Grace again went on. Runs were now made rapidly, and Gunn completed his 50 at 20 minutes to 4. Shortly afterwards the second hundred appeared on the board, the last 50 having been obtained in half an hour. Eleven runs later Shrewsbury was beaten in playing back to Dr Grace, who had been bowling remarkably well. Shrewsbury had taken rather more than three hours to make 98, in which were 13 fours, three threes and seven twos. Two for 211.

Ward was clean bowled by Dr Grace at 243. Chatterton came next, and Gunn reached 100 at 5 o'clock amidst loud applause. At 103, however, he was brilliantly caught by Mr E Smith behind the bowler – Dr Grace – whom he had driven with great force. Gunn took two hours and three-quarters to secure his 103; of course his batting was sadly marred by the bad mistake of Mr Philipson when he first came in. His chief hits were ten fours, four threes and 15 twos. Four for 266. Barnes and Chatterton were now together. The former played especially well, but Chatterton showed almost tedious caution. Messrs Ferris and Woods were the bowlers at 289. Barnes, with a brilliant boundary drive, sent up the 300 just before 6 o'clock. Ten runs later Chatterton was out leg-before; he had taken an hour and a quarter to make 15.

With Wainwright on the scene, Barnes continued his excellent cricket and completed 50 at 25 minutes to 7. Wainwright scored nine in an over from Mr Nepean, but with Dr Grace again on at the pavilion wicket the rate of run-getting fell considerably. The batsmen, however, remained together, and at the close the figures were 376. Throughout, the fielding of the Gentlemen was excellent.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 July, page 10)

The change in the weather allowed of very little cricket after luncheon at Lord's yesterday. In spite of the dullness of the Mr, however, there were about 5,000 people present. The Players on Monday made 376 for five wickets, and Barnes and Wainwright, who became partners at 310, were credited with 61 and 28. Mr Nepean and Dr W G Grace were the bowlers.

Barnes batted with freedom; he obtained four from each end, and then, with a cut for three, sent up 400 at 12 o'clock. Eight runs later he was caught at short-slip. In two hours he had made [84]. The chief figures were nine fours, five threes and nine twos. The sixth wicket in the course of an hour and a quarter had produced 98 runs.

Mr Woods, who had gone on at 408, for Dr Grace, bowled with great success. Wainwright and Lockwood were together for some time, during which there were various good strokes; but at 429 the latter was dismissed. Mr Woods also sent back Peel at 439. Another ten runs were added and then Attewell skied the ball into the hands of point. At 454 a brilliant catch low down at mid-off got rid of Sherwin. It was a quarter to 1 when the innings closed for 454, after having lasted seven hours. Shrewsbury, Gunn and Barnes contributed between them 285. Wainwright played remarkably well for his 56 not out.

Shortly after 1 o'clock Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart began the innings of the Gentlemen. Peel and Attewell were the bowlers. Runs came at a good pace, and various fours were included in the 36 obtained in the first 20 minutes. Lockwood then relieved Peel, and from his bowling Dr Grace gave a difficult chance at the wicket when he had scored 25. The cutting and driving were remarkably brilliant, and one fine drive by Mr Stoddart from Lockwood was particularly applauded. Abel came on at 46 for Attewell, but Mr Stoddart speedily sent him to the boundary, and 50 was reached in 35 minutes. Mr Stoddart narrowly escaped being run out, after which by many brilliant hits he scored 14 in an over from Lockwood. At 78 Wainwright and Attewell were deputed to bowl. Mr Stoddart made six by two drives from Attewell, and at luncheon time the record had advanced to 88 as the result of 55 minutes' play.

The rain which had been slightly falling since the Gentlemen went in increased during the interval, and further play was delayed until 3.20. Even then the weather had by no means cleared, but the umpires came out and an over each was bowled by Attewell and Wainwright. From the former Dr Grace made a couple, but was then out leg-before. The first wicket had produced 91 in an hour. Dr Grace had made four fours and three threes. Again the rain caused a delay, and at 5.30, as there was little prospect of an improvement, stumps were drawn.

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

The change in the weather on Tuesday ruined any chances which the Gentlemen had of responding

with a heavy score to the Players' long innings. In the absence of much sunshine yesterday at Lord's, the wicket proved less difficult than might have been expected, although the Gentlemen doubtless found it sufficiently false. There was much excellent batting, and the Gentlemen fought hard to prevent a reverse. Five thousand people were present, and the keenest interest was taken in the match.

The Gentlemen, who had lost one wicket (Dr Grace's) for 91, resumed their innings at 11.35, Mr Stoddart, the not-out with 49, being joined by Mr Scott. Attewell and Wainwright were the bowlers. Without the addition of a run Mr Stoddart was dismissed, and Mr Dixon came in. For some time the batsmen mastered the bowling, and at a quarter to 12 the score reached 100. During the first hour 61 runs were made. Peel then took a share of the bowling, but took no wicket. Barnes went on at the pavilion wicket at 167. A fine catch low down at mid-off soon afterwards disposed of Mr Dixon. Ninety-two had been secured for the wicket in an hour and a quarter.

Mr Palairet came next, and Mr Scott with an off drive to the boundary completed his 50 at a quarter past 1. Peel relieved Attewell at 191, and with only six added Mr Scott, in hitting round to leg, skied the ball over the wicket-keeper's head and was taken at slip. He had played excellently for 60, obtained in an hour and three-quarters, and his chief hits were two fours, four threes and 13 twos. After the score had reached 200 at half-past 1 Barnes rapidly got out Mr Palairet, Mr Smith and Lord Hawke, the record at the luncheon adjournment being 220 for seven wickets.

On resuming Barnes and Attewell were the bowlers. Each of the batsmen – Messrs Woods and Nepean – should have been stumped. Mr Nepean returned the ball and Mr Philipson was taken at mid-on. The innings of the Gentlemen closed at 3.20 for 258. These runs had been obtained at the rate of about 65 an hour.

In a minority of 196 the Gentlemen followed on, the original batting order being maintained. Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart went in, and Attewell and Barnes bowled. Mr Stoddart was bowled when 11 runs had been made. Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart showed steady defence, so Wainwright relieved Barnes at 14. At 22 Dr Grace, who had been in three-quarters of an hour for seven, was bowled. Going on at 34, Peel made a good return catch which sent back Mr Scott at 38. Mr Dixon gave a chance to Peel at cover-point, and was soon afterwards bowled at 47. Mr Nepean and Mr Palairet gave considerable trouble, and in spite of changes in the bowling 45 runs were added in as many minutes. Then a catch at the wicket disposed of Mr Palairet.

An hour and 20 minutes yet remained for play, and it became interesting to see whether the Gentlemen would save the match. Mr Nepean continued his excellent batting until 99, when, after a stay of an hour, he was out leg-before. With Lord Hawke and E Smith together runs were rapidly scored; 22 were obtained in ten minutes and 47 in 18 minutes. Wainwright and Abel were put on, but from the latter Lord Hawke made ten in one over, and when the partnership had produced 65 in 26 minutes Mr Smith was bowled. His innings of 44 was composed of seven fours, two threes, three twos and four singles.

With Barnes on again Lord Hawke was quickly bowled for a freely-played 29. There was now more than half an hour to play, and the Gentlemen with two batsmen in hand wanted 26 to save the innings defeat. Mr Woods was caught deep on the leg side without alteration in the figures, and Wainwright's next ball dismissed Mr Philipson. The last three men were all out at 170, and at half-past 6 the Players thus won the match by an innings and 26 runs.

For the match at Kennington Oval on Monday the Surrey executive have selected Lohmann and Maurice Read in place of Chatterton and Ward, but apart from these changes the Players team will be similarly constituted to that successful at Lord's yesterday.

4 July: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v DUBLIN UNIVERSITY (not first-class)

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

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 5 July, page 11)

Yesterday in College-park, Dublin, the Cambridge eleven began a match with Dublin University. Mr Jackson won the toss and, as the wicket was heavy, decided to give his opponents first innings. Mr J M Meldon batted well, but he gave a couple of chances.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 6 July, page 10)

This match was resumed at College-park, Dublin, yesterday. Among the spectators were the Lord Lieutenant and Lord Wolseley. Cambridge batted with great success, notably Mr Latham; but when the home side went in a second time the visitors' bowling was also severely punished.

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

A brilliant victory was gained by the Light Blues at Dublin yesterday, when at College Park they beat Dublin University by six wickets. The score on Tuesday night had left the home side in a pretty favourable position; but the last eight wickets were captured for an addition of 59 runs, Wells bowling with great success. Cambridge were left with 140 to make for victory and these were secured for the loss of only four batsmen.

4 July: DERBYSHIRE v LEICESTERSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/125/125271.html)

Days 1 and 2 – no report or scorecard found

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

A fine batting feat was achieved by Derbyshire in this match, which was brought to a close yesterday at Derby. Mr S H Evershed and Davidson each made over 100 runs, and Derbyshire, after following on, won the match by 210 runs.

7 July: SUSSEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3838.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 8 July, page 4)

The cricket at the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday, proved particularly interesting. Nottinghamshire, invincible hitherto this season, were dismissed for a comparatively small score and Sussex secured an advantage.

Going in first, the visitors lost Shrewsbury, caught at slip . . . , and, after Mr Redgate and Gunn had made a stand for 37, three batsmen were out at 52 – namely, Gunn, Barnes and Flowers. Shacklock and Mr Dixon added 48 by vigorous play during a partnership of half an hour. Nottinghamshire's prospects further improved while the defence was in the hands of Messrs Dixon and Wright, and the latter with A Shrewsbury, jun., also put on 34 for the ninth wicket. Eventually the innings closed for 167, the result of two hours and 20 minutes' play.

Bean and Marlow obtained 34 for the first Sussex wicket, but five men were out for 50. During the next hour and a quarter, Messrs Brann and Smith put on 96. After his dismissal Mr Andrews rapidly made 41.

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

There was a very interesting day's play at the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday, in which fortune fluctuated, but eventually turned in favour of Nottinghamshire. The home side completed their first innings in the morning with a lead of 55, and then Notts, in spite of capital batting by Shrewsbury and Gunn, lost four wickets for 103, or only 48 to the good.

Subsequently Flowers made 58 in 50 minutes by seven fours, three threes, seven twos and singles, while after nine men were out for 225 Shrewsbury, junior, and Sherwin added 64 for the last wicket in 35 minutes. It should be noted that Flowers and Gunn were both missed early in their innings. Sussex were left with 235 to get for victory, and at the close of the day half the side were out and 156 runs still to be made.

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

After a thoroughly interesting match, in which the great Nottinghamshire Eleven were more than once in a position that savoured of defeat, Sussex were beaten at the Hove Ground, Brighton, on Saturday. The home side let their chances of success slip through their hands on the second day, when various catches were dropped, and on the third morning Sussex, with the loss of half their men, yet wanted 156 to win.

Although Mr Smith played well, the batsmen were steadily ousted by Shacklock and Attewell, and in the end Nottinghamshire won by 91 runs. Shacklock's double analysis gave him the fine record of 12 wickets in the match for 166 runs. Nottinghamshire thus maintained their unbeaten record.

7 July: SURREY v SCOTLAND (not first-class)

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

Day 1 (report from Friday 8 July, page 4)

Within a week of their severe reverse at Edinburgh the Scottish eleven entered upon the return match with Surrey at the Oval yesterday, where the early cricket was played on a slow pitch. An injured hand kept Lohmann out of the home side, from which were also absent Mr J Shuter and Wood.

Scotland started badly against the attacks of Surrey's new fast bowler – Richardson – who got out the first three men for 27. Messrs T Johnston and Hay-Brown improved matters and obtained 47 in 45 minutes for the fourth wicket. Lockwood, coming on for Sharpe, then rapidly dismissed the visitors. Half the side went for 77, and the last five added only 37.

Surrey did not begin well, but Abel and Mr W W Read made a stand of 51 for the third wicket, while Abel and Henderson, getting together at 73, remained until the last over of the day, when Abel was run out.

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

In this match at Kennington-oval yesterday evening Surrey gained a very easy victory by an innings and 146 runs. The day's cricket was remarkable for the long partnership of Henderson and Mr Key, who for the sixth wicket put on 172 runs. Each batsman scored over 100. Henderson, who was caught at slip at 355, was in for three hours, and his faultless 133 included 15 fours, four threes and 12 twos. Mr Key was last out for 143; he was batting three and a half hours and made 22 fours, four threes and five twos.

Sharpe's four for 75 and Richardson's four for 44 were the best bowling figures. In the double innings the latter's nine wickets averaged 11 runs each.

7 July: YORKSHIRE v LEICESTERSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/113/113436.html)

Day 1 (no report or scorecard found from Friday 8 July, page 4)

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

Extraordinary scoring was witnessed at Bradford yesterday when Yorkshire, going in against Leicestershire's total of 120, scored 509 for six wickets. Peel is not out 226, while Wainwright made 122.

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

The remarkable scoring of Yorkshire, for which Peel and Wainwright were largely responsible, was replied to by Mr de Tradition on Saturday, at Bradford, when his brilliant hitting occupied most of the time available for cricket, which in the end was stopped by rain. Mr de Trafford made 13 fours, two threes and eight twos, and with Warren scored 134 in an hour and a half for the first Leicestershire wicket. Peel's 226 occupied five hours and three-quarters, and included one six, one five, 33 fours, eight threes and ten twos. The game was drawn . . .

Saturday 9 July: Mr G M'Gregor, the famous Cambridge University wicket-keeper, became qualified for Middlesex on the 7th inst., and will play in the Middlesex matches against Lancashire and Yorkshire. Mr A J Webbe will captain the full batting and bowling strength of the county in their northern engagements, which begin next Thursday.

Monday 11 July: THE COUNTIES

The positions of the leading counties are as follows:

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
Nottinghamshire	7	6	0	1
Surrey	6	4	1	1
Yorkshire	6	4	1	1
Middlesex	7	4	3	0
Lancashire	5	1	2	2
Gloucestershire	4	1	3	0
Somerset	4	1	3	0
Kent	6	1	4	1
Sussex	7	1	6	0

11 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3839.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 12 July, page 11)

The interest in the annual tests between the amateur and professional cricket talent is well sustained. The attendance at the Oval yesterday afternoon fell little short of 10,000, and the spectators saw plenty of sterling cricket.

The sides varied greatly from those which had met at Lord's. Dr Grace was absent, and the Gentlemen's eleven included six members of the University teams – Messrs F S Jackson and L C H Palairet, the captains, and Messrs Berkeley, Gay, Wells and Streatfeild. Lohmann, Maurice Read, Henderson and Rawlin were also fresh to the game.

With the choice of first innings lost, the Gentlemen had a long day's fielding in prospect. Shrewsbury carried his bat through the innings and played most finished cricket. He and Abel opened the professionals' innings soon after 12 o'clock. The latter had an early escape at the hands of Mr Streatfeild at slip, and then the defence rapidly became steady. Shrewsbury certainly made one bad hit just beyond the reach of slip, but from this point he ever afterwards showed a total disinclination to score from the tempting off bowling. Sixty-one were obtained in the first hour, and then Abel was easily taken at extra slip. Neither Maurice Read nor Lohmann gave much trouble, although the catch which dismissed the latter was made so near the ground as to cause the batsmen to appeal against it. Barnes came in third wicket down at 78 and the 100 quickly went up, after which he had a narrow escape at point (Mr Read). With the figures at 110 Barnes fell to cover-slip, and the adjournment for luncheon took place. Shrewsbury had just previously completed 50.

Following the interval Shrewsbury scored at a much quicker rate, and with Peel added 69 in rather less than an hour. Peel was now caught at third man, and Henderson arrived to see Shrewsbury complete 100, after a stay of some three hours. The total stood at 200 within a few minutes of 4 o'clock. Henderson made the majority of the 54 contributed during his sojourn of three-quarters of an hour. He was caught at extra slip at 233, having previously been missed by Mr Streatfeild. Wainwright made matters particularly lively and his fine batting elicited the applause on the onlookers; but he was secured by slip at 282, and Lockwood was bowled without scoring. Eight men were thus out. Rawlin's stay was brief, but Sherwin and Shrewsbury made a stand for the last wicket, which enabled Shrewsbury to complete 150. Sherwin eventually sent the ball into the hands of cover-point, and the innings closed at 6 o'clock for 325.

Shrewsbury took out his bat for 151. During the five hours over which his play had extended he gave no distinct chance. His chief hits were 15 fours, 17 threes and nine twos. Shrewsbury had contributed nearly half the runs and the next best score to his was Henderson's 36. Mr F S Jackson had bowled very well, but Mr Hedley had a better analysis with one wicket less.

The Gentlemen went in at 20 minutes past 6, Messrs Palairet and Stoddart facing the bowling of Lohmann and Peel. The latter was superseded at 25 by Lockwood, whose pitch was short, and twice the ball got up dangerously near Mr Stoddart's head. Mr Palairet showed fine cutting and driving powers, and had made 30 out of 46, when he was dismissed leg-before. Mr Berkeley came in . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 13 July, page 11)

Yesterday at Kennington Oval the weather was as unsuitable for cricket as it was at Lord's a week ago, and for the second time the amateurs will have to fight against defeat on a wicket spoiled by rain. In the morning Lockwood, from the gasometer end, met with so much success that something approaching a panic seemed to seize the Gentlemen; but, for the eighth wicket, the brilliant play of Mr W W Read and Mr C M Wells prevented the entire collapse of the team.

Within a few minutes of half-past 11 Mr Stoddart (who had been outstripped overnight in scoring by his companion, Mr Palairet, the Oxford captain) and Mr Berkeley were opposed by Lockwood and Lohmann. The former, having speedily got out Mr Berkeley, sent back Mr Scott with a "yorker," and from his bowling also Mr Stoddart was well caught at mid-off. Neither Mr Jackson nor Mr Newham troubled the scorers very much, and six men were out for 74. Messrs Streatfeild and Read were now partners, and the latter speedily secured applause for a boundary cut from each end. Another misfortune for the Gentlemen was at hand, Mr Streatfeild running himself out through starting for a single. Seven for 91.

Mr Wells arrived and began his partnership with Mr Read. With a cut for four Mr Wells brought up the 100 at half-past 12, and then in quick succession came three cuts for four each (two by Mr Read) and a drive (by Mr Wells) to the boundary. With Peel on at 120 and Rawlin ten runs later, the rate of run-getting increased, and the cutting of both batsmen was particularly good. Mr Read completed his 50 after a stay of an hour, and as the fine hitting remained unchecked Lohmann tried his bowling at the gasometer wicket, while Barnes took a turn opposite. With his figures at 67 Mr Read played an over of Lohmann's very badly; he was nearly caught and bowled, Henderson might have taken him at short slip, and a drive in the long field sent the ball only a little out of reach of Rawlin. However, at 178 this partnership, which had given the Players so much trouble and in 50 minutes had produced 87 runs, was severed by a capital piece of stumping, by which Mr Wells was put out. In his fine 40 were eight fours, a two and six singles.

Mr Hedley failed to stop a "yorker" from Barnes, while at 182 Mr W W Read was last out, caught at wicket. He had scored 70 in an hour and three-quarters, by eight fours, four threes, six twos and singles, and throughout he had, with few exceptions, played excellently. The Gentlemen prepared to follow on against arrears of 143, but rain fell when they were about to enter upon their second innings. After waiting until 5 o'clock the umpires decided to abandon further play for the day.

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

This match was concluded yesterday, at Kennington Oval, in dull weather. When the Gentlemen, who were 143 behind, began their second innings the light was bad, the atmosphere heavy and the turf soft. There was a good muster of spectators.

Mr W W Read altered his order of going in, and the first two batsmen were the University captains – Messrs Jackson and Palairet – while Lockwood and Lohmann were the bowlers. Mr Jackson profited little by an escape which he had at the hands of Maurice Read for, with only nine runs on the board, he fell to a catch at mid-off. Mr Scott came in and, after being bowled by a no-ball from Lockwood, settled down and played in capital form. Mr Palairet scored freely, although he should have been caught by Peel. Fifty were secured in 40 minutes. Without addition, however, Mr Palairet was taken at deep mid-off. The Oxford captain had made 52 runs in his two innings.

Messrs Stoddart and Scott were now partners, and they threw plenty of vigour into the batting. Having scored 15 Mr Stoddart made a lofty drive from Lohmann direct to Henderson, who failed to hold the ball. Subsequently Mr Stoddart twice drove Lohmann to the boundary, but at 85 Rawlin, by a capital catch at long-on, brought about the dismissal of this dangerous batsman. With Mr W W Read in, Mr Scott obtained four by a drive, which sent up the 100 after an hour and a half's play. Peel, who had relieved Lockwood for a few overs, was now given a trial at the pavilion end. From Lockwood's bowling Mr Scott was nearly caught at wicket, and then should certainly have been secured by Wainwright at mid-off; after these escapes he advanced his record to 50 by an off-drive to the boundary. Wainwright displaced Lockwood at 115, and a little later the former cleverly caught Mr W W Read; he made the catch running from mid-off. Four for 119. Mr Newham stayed until 134, and was caught at wicket, and Mr Streatfeild for the second time ran himself out in attempting to score two from a cut. Six for 135. Mr Wells joined Mr Scott and just before the luncheon interval came the single by which the arrears were cleared off.

Afterwards there were more blunders in the field; Mr Wells was missed by Wainwright, and Mr Scott, with his figures at 75, gave Henderson a chance at short slip off Lohmann's bowling. However, the innings was rapidly finished; Mr Scott was caught at long-off, Peel bowled Mr Wells, a good catch at mid-on sent back Mr Gay, while Mr Hedley was brilliantly caught in the long-field by Abel, who took the ball high up with his right hand. Total, 178; time, 3.25. Mr Scott, who had been seventh to leave at 163, was in two hours and a half for his 80; in spite of the good fortune which attended him he made many fine strokes, and his figures were 11 fours, three threes, three twos and singles.

The Players wanted only 36 to win, and these were obtained from the bowling of Messrs F S Jackson and Berkeley in 25 minutes. Lockwood was missed by Mr Gay at cover-point. Shrewsbury scored 162 runs in the match without being out. The Players won by ten wickets . . .

11 July: KENT v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3840.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 12 July, page 11)

Yesterday, the opening day on the Tonbridge Week, the Lancashire eleven were seen to great batting advantage. Going in first, they remained at the wickets the whole time, during which their runs averaged 90 an hour.

All the early players fared well, but the triumph of the day had yet to come, when the sixth wicket fell at 293. Baker and Yates became partners at this point; they added 176 runs in the course of an hour and a half, and then a splendid catch in the long field sent back Baker, who had scored his first hundred for Lancashire in 90 minutes by 16 fours, three threes and seven twos. It was a brilliant display of fine hitting, and the only mistake of the batsmen was a difficult chance to mid-on with his figures at 88. Lancashire had yet a wicket to fall at the drawing of stumps.

Fine weather was experienced and there was a large company on the ground. It will be noted that Mr Fox re-appears in the home eleven, having recovered from his severe accident at Bristol.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 13 July, page 11)

Kent experienced further misfortune yesterday at Tonbridge, when, after the long innings of their rivals, the rain came and ruined the wicket, on which their batsmen fared badly. The visitors did not increase the overnight score of 484 and, while the weather was yet fine, Kent obtained 47 for the loss of two batsmen.

After some two and a half hours' interruption through the wet, 16 wickets fell for 92 runs in the course of an hour and a half. Mold and Briggs bowled with remarkable effect, and Kent are in a hopeless position, being 345 behind, with only two batsmen in hand.

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

At Tonbridge yesterday Lancashire beat Kent in a very decisive manner, winning by no less than an innings and 330 runs. Overnight the home side were in a hopeless position, and yesterday the match was rapidly played out. Mold's fast bowling proved very effective and his analysis was remarkable – i.e., nine wickets for 29 runs.

11 July: LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3841.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 12 July, page 11)

At Liverpool, yesterday, a Yorkshire eleven appeared against a team of Liverpool and district. The latter made 228, to which number Mr A G Steel contributed 25. Yorkshire lose five wickets for 55 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 13 July, page 11)

In the Yorkshire v Liverpool and District match, continued yesterday at the Aigburth Ground, Liverpool, there was some heavy scoring by the visitors, for whom Hall made 101 and Wardall 112. Yorkshire followed, and had obtained 318 for eight wickets at the drawing of stumps. Liverpool's total was 230.

Day 3 (no report or scorecard found from Thursday 14 July, page 11)

14 July: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3842.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 July, page 8)

It did not seem like a Gloucestershire eleven yesterday without “WG,” but Dr Grace’s sprained knee prevented him assisting the county in this match at Bristol. Weather proved fine and there was a large number of spectators.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 July, page 14)

At Bristol yesterday the match between Gloucestershire and Somerset was continued in the presence of several thousand spectators. Mr L C H Palaret, the Oxford captain, showed some good play. He went in first wicket down before a run had been scored, and was fifth out at 172; his innings of 104 included ten fours, five threes and 13 twos. Hale, the Somersetshire new professional, batted in excellent style, and Robinson and Tyler both materially helped him to improve the score. Somersetshire were 111 ahead on the first innings.

Dr E M Grace and Mr Rice again started well for the home side, putting on 54 before they were separated. Painter’s determined batting rendered Gloucestershire great service, and the home team are now 79 ahead with four wickets to fall.

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

After an excellent match at the county ground, Bristol, the Somerset eleven were able to claim a brilliant victory on Saturday. On Friday night the home side, having gone in against a majority of 111, had scored 190 for the loss of six wickets.

In about three-quarters of an hour the remaining batsmen were disposed of for an addition 32 runs. Painter increased his not-out score of 79 to 85, and was then bowled. He and Murch had put on 61 for the seventh wicket, and his vigorous innings included eight fours, five threes and 11 twos.

Somerset now required 112 for victory. Their batsmen all hit freely, and there were several mistakes in the Gloucestershire field. Mr Fowler was twice missed. Eventually Somerset won by seven wickets, and their success had not long been gained when a storm of rain broke over the ground and there would probably have been little chance of further play.

14 July: KENT v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3843.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 July, page 8)

The executive at Tonbridge were fortunate in securing one of Kent's most attractive fixtures for the second match of the "Week." But the weather again proved unkind and yesterday the weather was dull and heavy although the rain held off. The gate money is to be given to Pentecost, who has rendered Kent much good service as a wicket-keeper.

Surrey gave a further trial to Richardson, their new fast bowler, while Mr C M Wells, of Cambridge University, who figured prominently in Gentlemen v Players, succeeded Brockwell. Messrs W H Patterson and M C Kemp and S Hearne were away from Kent. There was a very good attendance at the pretty little ground overlooked by the Quarry-hill, and the friends of Kent grew enthusiastic late in the afternoon over the triumphs of the home bowlers. The fine bowling and fielding certainly compensated for ant lack of batting skill.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 July, page 14)

This match was concluded yesterday at Tonbridge. There was a very large company present. In the morning Kent, who, with eight wickets to fall, were nine runs on, made only small progress and seemed to be speedily losing the game. Mr Braybrooke occasionally got the ball well away, but half the side had gone by the time the figures reached 59.

Messrs Le Fleming and Knowles gave some trouble, and it was during their partnership that the Surrey attack was varied for the first time in the match, Abel and Richardson each going on at the lower end. Lohmann bowled remarkably well and eventually got out Messrs Le Fleming and Knowles; the latter played excellently for 42, obtained in an hour and 35 minutes, and inclusive of five fours and five threes. Eight wickets were down for 104, but an unexpected stand by Martin and Wright occupied an hour and produced 51. The former, before he had scored, however, gave a difficult chance to Mr Shuter at cover-point. The last Kent man left shortly after 3 o'clock for 157.

Surrey had 141 to get for victory, and they entered upon their task at 3.35. Mr W W Read and Lohmann were out for 21, and at 46 a good piece of stumping sent back Abel. Maurice Read profited little by an escape at the hands of the Kent captain, as he was well caught in the slips at 51. Mr Shuter made matters very lively while he stayed, contributing one six (a straight drive out of the ground off Martin), four fours and a two. He was fifth out at 87, clean bowled. Mr Key and Henderson then got together and, batting steadily, secured the rest of the runs by a quarter to 6. Mr Key played admirably, but Henderson made a lot of lucky strokes. The professional, with a cut for four, completed the number which gave Surrey the victory by five wickets. The band of the Scots Guards played during the afternoon.

14 July: LANCASHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3844.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 July, page 8)

On a soft and treacherous pitch, at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, the opening day's play in this match produced a series of bowling triumphs, in which J T Hearne, for Middlesex, and Mold, for Lancashire, figured most prominently. Some 7,000 people were present, but the weather was miserably dull, and at one time the cricket was suspended on account of the uncertain light.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 July, page 14)

About 6,000 people assembled at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday, when the second day of Lancashire v Middlesex furnished far different cricket to that seen on Thursday.

The variation was all in favour of the home team, and the stand of Briggs and Mr Crosfield for the fifth wicket placed Lancashire in a favourable position. They put on 89 runs in an hour and a half. Briggs for some time longer continued to score, and contributed 98 out of 156 scored in the two hours and a half of his stay. He gave no distinct chance and made 12 fours, four threes and ten twos.

Eventually Middlesex were left with 227 to obtain for victory. After losing Mr Stoddart, Messrs Webbe and Scott played well and added 64 in an hour and a quarter for the second wicket. Mr Webbe stayed in, but the bowling of Mold proved disastrous for most of the visitors.

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

At one time on Saturday there was little prospect of any more play in this match at Manchester, but the weather cleared in the afternoon, and when the day had much advanced the wicket at Old Trafford was found to be fit for play, and a start was made at 5.45. Middlesex were in an almost hopeless position, as with only two wickets to fall they wanted 124 to avoid defeat.

Mr Webbe, the not-out with 49, played with every care, but was eventually caught at wicket for an excellent 51. He was in two hours and a half, and made four fours, one three and ten twos. Afterwards J T Hearne and Phillips exercised great caution and, baffling all the attempts to the Lancashire bowlers to separate them, saved the game for the visitors. Mold had a very fine analysis. The match was drawn . . .

14 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3845.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 July, page 8)

So far there has been little in the return match between these counties at Trent Bridge to interfere with its reputation for small scoring. On the slow wicket yesterday the bowlers had the advantage, although in the end Nottinghamshire were left in a fairly favourable position. It may be noted that Yorkshire are without Wainwright, who injured himself in the Gentlemen v Players match.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 July, page 14)

Another three-figure innings by Shrewsbury, of Nottingham, has to be recorded. It was his defence in this match at Trent Bridge that laid the foundation for the large score of 369 by the Midland county. His 116 extended over four and three-quarter hours, and the feat was achieved on a slow wicket without a mistake. His hits included ten fours, seven threes, 11 twos and 33 singles.

Mr Robinson helped Shrewsbury to put on 110 for the seventh wicket in two hours; the former contributed two fours, nine threes and 11 twos, and Attewell subsequently put together 51 by three fours, three threes and eight twos. Yorkshire, who were 262 behind, fared badly in their second innings.

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

When play ceased on Friday evening at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, a victory for the home side seemed assured, but the rain came on Saturday and in all probability saved Yorkshire from a severe defeat. The match was left drawn . . .

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/125/125273.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 15 July, page 8)

At Lord's, yesterday, great progress was made with this match, in which Leicestershire secured an advantage. To-day the MCC have to follow on with arrears of 90.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 16 July, page 14)

At Lord's, yesterday, the Marylebone team were seen to considerable advantage in their uphill fight and, after following on against arrears of 90, set their opponents 167 to make. Leicestershire failed to get these in the time left for play, and the match was drawn . . .

The following are the positions of the leading counties: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
Nottinghamshire	8	6	0	2
Surrey	7	5	1	1
Yorkshire	7	4	1	2
Lancashire	7	2	2	3
Somerset	5	2	3	0
Gloucestershire	5	1	4	0
Kent	8	1	6	1
Sussex	7	1	6	0

18 July: SOMERSET v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3846.html)

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

After their victory over Gloucestershire at Bristol on Saturday, Somerset yesterday began the first of their home matches at Taunton. Rain delayed play until 2 o'clock.

Mr Crosfield, having won the toss, decided to go in, and Sugg and Ward were opposed by Mr Woods and Tyler. Wickets soon began to fall rapidly. A capital catch by third man disposed of Ward and Sugg was secured in the long field. Smith arrived, and saw the downfall of the rest of his side. Briggs was dismissed by a fine catch close to the ring, Baker was bowled middle stump, Tinsley cut the ball into point's hands and Yates returned it to the bowler. Six for 19. Mr Crosfield was caught at point and Mr Kemble by third man, while Watson and Mold were both clean bowled. Mr Smith's 23 had taken him 50 minutes to obtain. Duration of innings, one hour.

Somerset were well aided in their batting by Mr Hewett, in whose 36 was a fine hit out of the ground. He made his runs in 55 minutes. Mr Woods carried out his bat for a dozen. Briggs bowled effectively, and at the close of an innings each Somerset only led by 24. Lancashire went in a second time, and Sugg and Ward ran up 50 in an hour. The former was then dismissed.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 22 July, page 4)

At Taunton yesterday there was a continuation of the wet weather which set in on Monday, and no cricket was possible. Play will be resumed this morning . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 July, page 6)

A brilliant victory was gained by Somerset over Lancashire at Taunton yesterday afternoon, which was in a great measure due to Messrs Hewett and Palairet. These gentlemen during a partnership of over an hour's duration scored 96 runs on a false wicket and against such formidable bowlers as Mold, Briggs and Watson.

At the resumption of play the Lancastrians had scored 54 for the loss of Sugg in the second innings. At the cost of two more batsmen the total was taken beyond the 100, while 128 went up before the fourth wicket fell. Then came a change and the record in the end reached 153, Nichols and Mr Hedley bowling with great effect towards the close.

Somerset wanted 130 to win and, with the pitch very false, their chance was not hopeful. The home side started badly, losing Mr Fowler before he had scored, but Messrs Palairet and Hewett now began their remarkable stand. Each, however, was soon missed, Baker at mid-off letting Mr Hewett escape while Ward misjudged a catch from Mr Palairet in the long field when the latter was 23. The batsmen hit vigorously, and the second 50 runs were scored in 20 minutes. With the record at 101 Mr Hewett fell to a catch in the long field; he made his 56 in a little over an hour by six fours, ten twos and singles.

Mr Palairet survived him only a little time, being out to a fine catch at mid-off at 117. His chief

items were one six (four by an overthrow), four fours, three threes and six twos. The remaining 13 runs cost Somerset three more batsmen, but they finally won by four wickets, Mr Hedley making the winning hit.

18 July: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3847.html)

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

The capital fight made By Sussex with Notts considerably brightened their disastrous record this season and awakened greater interest in the opening match with Surrey, which began yesterday at the Hove Ground, Brighton. Sussex had about their strongest side, and the same may be said of Surrey, in whose team the eleventh place has been shared alternately by Messrs Wells and Streatfeild and Brockwell. Richardson, the fast bowler, had been pretty successful on the second day of the Tonbridge fixture with Kent, and he once more supplanted Sharpe.

While there was no lengthened spell of sunshine yesterday, the weather was generally pleasant until late in the day, when rain came on. Sussex had a long day's fielding, for the wicket was good, and Surrey, going in first, found runs easy to obtain, except, perhaps, from Humphreys's lobbs.

Mr W W Read and Abel began the visitors' batting in very animated style, but after 55 runs had been obtained in the first half-hour the play became quieter. The next 45 runs took 50 minutes to get, and at luncheon the score stood at 118. Subsequently the figures travelled to 155, and then a catch at mid-on severed the partnership by dismissing Abel. He had made 61 out of 155 in two hours. Mr Read completed his 100 after a stay of two hours and a quarter. Lohmann and Maurice Read were both caught from the lob bowling, and Mr Read was fourth out, Mr Andrews catching him at short leg. He had played the lobbs at times with an utter want of confidence, but generally it was a remarkably fine innings, extending over two hours and three-quarters and including 16 fours. Henderson was quickly run out.

Affairs had considerably changed during the last 45 minutes, for while the 150 had gone up without the loss of a wicket five men were now out for 199. The alteration was to be still more marked, for Mr Shuter and Mr Key were out in one over from Tate, and seven wickets were thus down for 207. Lockwood and Mr Streatfeild made a fine stand for the eighth wicket and in the course of an hour added 68. The former, who had been missed in the long field by Bean with his figures at 23, played on at 275. Mr Streatfeild and Wood were then quickly disposed of, and the innings closed at a quarter past 5. The Sussex attack had been in some degree weakened by the absence of Mr C A Smith until late in the day. Rain fell so fast afterwards that further cricket was impossible, and stumps were drawn at five minutes past 6.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 20 July, page 4)

Against the substantial Surrey score of 279 the home side at Brighton yesterday had to begin their innings on a wicket rendered treacherous by the rain of Monday evening. At a quarter to 12 Bean and Marlow were opposed by Lohmann and Lockwood.

The former bowler soon disposed of Marlow, while at 20 Mr Heasman gave him an easy return catch. Mr Newham joined Bean, who, however, left at 34. Subsequently a stand was made by Messrs Newham and Brann, but heavy rain soon fell and caused the abandonment of play for the day . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 July, page 6)

Ill-fortune certainly dogged the steps of Sussex in this match, concluded yesterday on the Hove ground, at Brighton. In the first place they lost the toss, and Surrey retained possession of the wicket while it remained fast and true; then the rain came, ruining the pitch and leaving the home side an up-hill game to play.

Yesterday the weather was very fine, but the turf grew rapidly worse. However, at the outset Messrs Newham and Brann, who were together on Tuesday, met with success, runs came at the rate of one a minute, causing the visitors soon to alter their attack, which had been opened by Lohmann and Lockwood. Richardson at length dismissed Mr Brann with a “yorker.” During the hour and a quarter of the partnership 66 runs had been added. Although Mr Smith stayed some time he scored only a single, and then disasters came rapidly. Mr Newham’s excellent innings ended at 139, when he was sixth to leave for 69. He was in two hours and a half. Shortly after luncheon the innings closed, and being 108 behind Sussex followed on.

At first there was the prospect of an innings defeat being averted, and 50 went up for the loss of only two men – Mr Brann and Bean, both caught in the long-field. However, the third wicket fell at 57, while at 61 the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh all went. Marlow had played well, but afterwards Humphreys alone gave any trouble, and the innings extended over only an hour and three-quarters. Lohmann bowled with great effect, as will be gathered from the figures below. Surrey won by an innings and 26 runs.

18 July: YORKSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3848.html)

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

The bowlers held an advantage all yesterday at Headingley, Leeds, when the return to the remarkable match at Lord's earlier in the season between these counties began. There was a very large company present. Yorkshire, going in first, retained possession of the wicket for two hours and three-quarters. The score reached 100, and Lord Hawke alone fared very well against the effective bowling of Rawlin.

Mr Stoddart started brilliantly for Middlesex, and his fine hitting promised a good score for the visitors. However, having made 46 out of 63 in 50 minutes, he was dismissed, and then the batsmen so rapidly failed against the attacks of Peel and Wainwright that Middlesex could claim only an advantage of 22. There were various mistakes in the Yorkshire field.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 20 July, page 4)

Each side completed an innings in this match at Leeds on Monday, and Middlesex claimed an advantage of 22. Rain prevented any cricket yesterday, but, if possible, an early start will be made to-day . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 July, page 6)

Yesterday, at the Headingley Ground, Leeds, this match was concluded on a treacherous wicket. Yorkshire, who were 22 runs behind on the first innings, went in a second time at 12.25, the lateness of the start being occasioned by the heavy state of the turf.

From the outset the bowling of Rawlin and Hearne proved altogether too much for the Yorkshiremen. Two wickets were lost before the arrears were cleared off. Half the side was out by the time the figures reached 30, and the remaining batsmen added only 16 runs, the innings closing after an hour and three-quarters' play for 46. Hearne and Rawlin, who bowled unchanged, had fine analyses. Mr Jackson, who had a couple of lives, made exactly half of the Yorkshire total. Middlesex obtained the 25 runs necessary to win in as many minutes and beat Yorkshire by nine wickets.

18 July: ESSEX v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128407.html)

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

On the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday, Warwickshire monopolized the wicket the whole of the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 20 July, page 4)

Yesterday morning, at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, the wicket was heavy from the over-night rain, and the bowlers held an advantage. Essex entered upon their innings against the bowling of Shilton and Pallett. The play proved quiet, and had not proceeded very long when rain set in and caused an adjournment to be made until this morning.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 21 July, page 6)

In spite of the disadvantage of having to bat on a bowler's wicket, Essex fared pretty well at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday. Burns, who was in 50 minutes, made five fours, four threes and five twos. Mr Hailey, Mr Taberer and Pickett also met with success, and each of the two latter stayed with Mr Hailey whole over 40 runs were added. The game was drawn . . .

Thursday 21 July, page 6: SURREY v SCOTLAND

The following notice has been issued by the Marylebone Club: -

“Lord’s Cricket Ground, London, N.W.

“The opinion of the committee of MCC, having been asked by several of the counties and by many leading cricketers as to whether the matches ‘Surrey v Scotland’ could be considered ‘first-class’ ones, it was unanimously held at a meeting of the Committee at Lord’s, on July 18, that these matches were not ‘first-class.’”

21 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3849.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 22 July, page 7)

The powerful Nottinghamshire eleven had all the best of the cricket at Trent-bridge yesterday. Dr W G Grace won the toss and put the home side in.

At first fortune seemed to devour the visitors; Mr Ferris clean bowled Shrewsbury at 12, while Mr Dixon and Barnes were both out by the time the score reached 67, the result of an hour's play. Gunn and Flowers now became partners, and from this point Gloucestershire's hopes of getting their rivals out for a small score were rapidly dispelled. After Flowers had been missed in the long field, he played fine, free cricket, which contrasted with the more finished method of Gunn. In less than an hour and a half 111 runs were put on for the fourth wicket. Flowers, who returned the ball, was responsible for 72 of this number, contributing eight fours, five threes and eight twos. Afterwards Gunn saw the rest of the side dismissed, and took out his bat for a faultless 98. He was in three hours and three-quarters, and his chief figures were eight fours, seven threes and eleven twos. It may be noted that Gunn and Flowers between them scored 170 runs.

Gloucestershire, who were without Captain Luard, fared badly during the last hour and a half, when the light was indifferent; and with five of their batsmen gone they yet require 135 to save the "follow on."

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 July, page 11)

The Gloucestershire eleven never recovered from the disastrous hour and a half of Thursday evening, and yesterday they were easily beaten at Trent Bridge. Nottinghamshire having once got the match in hand played a brilliant winning game in which their bowlers and fieldsmen equally shone. With five of their best men out for 39 Gloucestershire resumed batting at 11.35. Mr Kitcat alone met with any success and in an hour and 20 minutes the innings closed for an addition of 41.

With arrears of 173 the visitors followed on and this time their batsmen fared even worse. Between a quarter past 1 and a quarter to 4 the second venture was completed for a feeble 73. Dr W G Grace, who was slightly lame, made only ten runs in the double innings. The day had furnished a series of bowling triumphs, and the figures of the analysis speak for themselves. The ill fortune which attended Gloucestershire's policy of winning the toss and putting their rivals in will not readily be forgotten. Nottinghamshire won by an innings and 100 runs.

21 July: SOMERSET v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3850.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 22 July, page 7)

For the greater part of yesterday, at Taunton, the bowlers held the advantage. Sussex won the toss and took first innings, but against the admirable attack and fielding of their opponents they could make little headway. Mr Heasman exercised considerable care, and stayed an hour and 40 minutes to secure 35, being eighth out at 85. Subsequently affairs improved for the visitors, whose innings extended over two hours and realized 125.

The play of Somerset was somewhat disappointing to the spectators, and the home batsmen were steadily ousted by Humphreys and Tate; the former's lobs were especially effective. Messrs Hewett, Palaret and Woods each scored freely during their brief innings, and Mr Hewett made his 30 out of 35 obtained in a quarter of an hour. Sussex held a lead of seven on the first venture, and when they went in a second time Bean batted brilliantly.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 July, page 11)

Good cricket was seen at Taunton yesterday in this match, which culminated in a great batting performance on the part of the home county. At the close of Thursday's play Sussex had started their second innings and were 91 runs on at the cost of three wickets only. Bean, the not-out of the previous evening with 48, was accompanied to the wickets by Mr Newham. Mr Woods and Nichols led the attack.

Bean only added three when he was driven on to his wicket. Mr Heasman returned the ball, and Mr Smith joined Mr Newham. The 100 was quickly passed. A fine ball from Mr Woods found its way to Mr Smith's wicket. Mr Newham batted well until he was run out, but Guttridge made matters look exceedingly hopeful for his side. He ran up 70 runs in 75 minutes, then he was clean bowled. The innings closed at 2 o'clock for 224.

After the interval Somerset started on the heavy task of getting 232 for victory. Messrs Hewett and Palaret, before an enthusiastic crowd, more than repeated their great feat of Wednesday, when, against Lancashire, they obtained 101 for the first wicket of the last innings. Without giving a chance these batsmen yesterday afternoon scored 125 in a little over an hour. Thirty were made from the first four overs, 50 in 25 minutes, and the 100 in three-quarters of an hour. Mr Hewett was the first to leave, being bowled at 125. His faultless 84 consisted of one six, 12 fours, five threes, four twos and seven singles. Mr Dunlop played well for a time, and at 188 Mr Palaret was third out for a superb 70. He was in for an hour and three-quarters. Mr Fowler again failed, but then Mr Woods and Nichols ran up the last 49 in 34 minutes, and Somerset gained a victory by six wickets.

The weather was very fine and the spectators were not grudging in their applause of the great batting feats of the Oxford cricketers. This was Somerset's third victory within nine days.

21 July: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3851.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 22 July, page 7)

Some 8,000 people visited Kennington Oval yesterday, when the return match between these counties was begun. Both sides were thoroughly representative. The weather proved very fine, but the keenness of the wind was at times disagreeable.

Surrey's good fortune in the matter of tossing for choice of innings showed no break, so that they were able to take possession of a wicket which, although somewhat slow, did not seem to aid the bowlers much. Going in first with Abel, Mr Read gave a further illustration of his admirable batting form this season. Abel also did well, and there were many good hits that elicited applause from the crowded terraces. Mr Smith and Peel began the bowling, but Lord Hawke frequently varied the attack and, although Wainwright and Mr Jackson went on, the 50 was reached in the first hour, while in the next 45 minutes the fresh bowling brought into play failed to prevent the registration of the 100. The separation was, however, near at hand for, in the last over before luncheon, Abel was caught at wicket. He had played well, and his chief hits were two fours, five threes and nine twos.

In the third over after the interval a serious mistake was made by Moorhouse, who should have easily taken Mr Read at mid-on from Peel's bowling, while a few minutes later the same fieldsman might have caught Lohmann in the long field. The cricket proved very lively, but at length, at 140, Mr Read was well beaten by a good ball from Wainwright. He had been in two and a half hours, and his fine display of batting contained 11 fours, three threes and five twos. Maurice Read came next and played carefully, but Lohmann's game was vigorous and sundry fours were recorded to him. At 174 Lohmann drove the ball into the hands of mid-off.

From this point the Surrey men were steadily dismissed, and the heavy score promised by the early cricket was not reached. Mr Shuter left at 192, and then ensued some very careful defence by Maurice Read and Henderson, who were much puzzled by the bowlers, the wicket having dried and become slightly difficult. The partnership became somewhat tedious, but with the running out of M Read through a good return by Mounsey a series of disasters set in, and the Surrey innings closed. Indeed, after the departure of the captain the last six wickets averaged only a little over eight runs each. Mr Streatfeild was again run out. It was 5.35 when the Surrey innings closed for 245, which had been secured at the rate of about 54 an hour.

Yorkshire started their innings shortly before 6 o'clock. The light was bad and the Surrey bowlers seemed to make much of the assistance of the pitch. Lockwood got a wicket in each of his first three overs (in which only a single was scored from him), clean bowling Ulyett, Mounsey and Wardall. Ulyett should have been caught by Mr Key running from mid-on in Lohmann's first over. Mr Ernest Smith played brilliantly, and had made 33 out of 44 when Lohmann secured him in the long field. Then Mr Jackson had the misfortune to be run out, while a return catch by Abel sent back Mr Sellers and made six wickets down for 45. Peel and Wainwright were together when stumps were drawn at 7 o'clock. Yorkshire to-day want 117 to avert the follow on.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 July, page 11)

Yorkshire fared so badly in the closing hour of Thursday that the interest in this match was somewhat lessened, but yesterday morning it rapidly revived under the influence of the fine batting of Wainwright and Peel. When the news spread that the visitors were making a good fight the spectators came up to Kennington Oval in large numbers, and in the afternoon there were about 7,000 present. The conditions of the game were altogether happier than on Thursday; the cold wind had gone, the sun shone brilliantly after a little heaviness in the morning atmosphere, and the wicket was drier.

Peel and Wainwright became partners overnight at a critical stage, for six wickets were down for 45. At 11.35 they resumed. Wainwright forced the hitting, and Richardson, who had begun the bowling with Lockwood, came in for severe punishment. Lohmann, owing to a strain, could not go on. Various bowling changes were tried, but the 100 went up at 12 o'clock. During the first hour and 10 minutes Peel and Wainwright put on 101 runs. At 157 the partnership was severed, Wainwright being caught by the wicket-keeper standing back to Lockwood. He was very warmly applauded for his fine batting, having made 73 out of the 112 added in an hour and a half for the seventh wicket. His chief items were seven fours, six threes and nine twos.

Only nine runs were wanted to save the follow-on, and as three wickets were still in hand there seemed small likelihood of such a mishap. The visitors, however, very narrowly escaped, for when once Peel and Wainwright had been parted the innings rapidly closed. A good ball from Lockwood sent back Peel at 160; his careful 37 had taken him an hour and three-quarters to obtain. Yorkshire in the end were 78 behind, and they were almost entirely indebted to Wainwright and Peel for saving them from a far worse position. Lockwood's analysis came out remarkably good.

Surrey again started well with Mr W W Read and Abel, who secured 54 for the opening partnership in 50 minutes. Mr Read was the first to leave; caught at wicket; he had again shown admirable form and his record for the game reached 107 runs. For some little time fortune seemed to have veered round and things went badly for Surrey. Abel, Maurice Read (profiting little from an escape at slip), Lohmann and Mr Shuter were all quickly out, and when the figures stood at 88, five men had gone.

But the 35 minutes' partnership of Lockwood and Henderson brought back to Surrey their winning game. Lockwood hit very finely (and fortune was kind to him as he twice escaped in the long field) and Henderson scored (for a while at least) with more freedom than usual. Fifty-one were added for the sixth wicket. Mr Sellers, who had previously let off Lockwood, now caught the batsman at long-on, taking the ball in a manner which atoned for his earlier error. Henderson was eighth out at 164, clean bowled, but Wood and Mr Streatfeild gave some trouble, and at 5.35 the last wicket fell for 189.

Yorkshire thus had to make 268 for victory. They lost Ulyett before he had scored, but then Mr Jackson and Wardall kept together for upwards of an hour and raised the record from five to 65. Lohmann was able to bowl again. At the outset the batsmen hit with freedom and there were many narrow escapes; Lohmann, Wood, Richardson and M Read all just failed to grasp very hard chances. Mr Jackson made many fine hits and was loudly applauded at the drawing of stumps, when Yorkshire, with nine wickets in hand, wanted 203 to win.

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

Yorkshire had played an uphill game with so much spirit on Friday as to leave a prospect of an excellent finish on Saturday, when, with nine wickets in hand, they wanted 203 to win. The morning proved fine, and several thousand spectators visited the Oval. By admirable batting Mr Jackson and Wardall had overnight scored 60 for the second partnership, and they resumed precisely at 11.30. Lockwood and Richardson were the bowlers. Lohmann did not go on at the outset, because of the slight strain to his side.

Mr Jackson made a single from each end and secured four by a snick, but these were the only items added, when a good ball from Richardson took the Cambridge captain's off stump. He had been in an hour and 20 minutes. Two for 71. Mr Sellers arrived, and the hitting at once became very lively. Three cuts were made for four each (two by Wardall), but from Richardson Mr Sellers had a narrow escape of being caught in the slips, a bumping ball going off the shoulder of his bat just out of reach of Lohmann. Warm applause greeted the appearance of the 100 at 11.53, after which Mr Streatfeild was given a trial in the attack. Wardall promptly cut him for four. In the 35 minutes that Mr Sellers had been in 50 runs were scored. The rate of run-getting which had been so fast now considerably lessened. Abel bowled very well for a few overs from the pavilion end, but the batsmen seemed thoroughly set. Matters began to look serious for Surrey as the 120 went up with still only two men out.

Nine runs later Lohmann, in spite of his strain, determined to try his bowling, and this alteration produced the turning point of the game. In his first over six runs were scored, but then Wardall in playing forward was clean bowled. The retiring batsman had been in an hour and 50 minutes for an excellent 57. Mr Smith was next on the order, and 133 were yet wanted by Yorkshire for victory. Lockwood at once took up the bowling at the gasometer end. His first ball was well played to leg by Sellers for four, but at 147 Lohmann got rid of an dangerous opponent in Mr Smith, whom he clean bowled.

The tide now completely turned against Yorkshire. Great reliance was placed upon Peel and Wainwright, two of the best men in the side, and when they both left in the next quarter of an hour the hopes of the visitors fell. It was a skilful catch which dismissed Wainwright; Mr Shuter, who was fielding rather deep at mid-off, ran back and took the ball very high up. Peel was cleverly stumped. Six men were thus out for 150. Lord Hawke obtained a couple of lucky fours in the slips, and then, at 166, he cut the ball into the hands of point. Mounsey was badly struck on the head by a ball from Lockwood, whose pitch was short, and Mr Sellers, after the completion of his 50, received a blow on the leg, from which Lockwood appealed unsuccessful for "lbw."

At 180 Mr Sellers was clean bowled for 55; his innings had extended over two hours. Moorhouse, after being struck in the knee by a ball from Lockwood, played on. Mounsey was then dismissed, and within a minute of 2 o'clock the match was won by Surrey by 72 runs. It was a fine game throughout. Lohmann's figures on Saturday were 19 overs (eight maidens), 26 runs, six wickets; and his full record for the innings was seven for 50.

21 July: ESSEX v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128408.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 22 July, page 7)

The second match of the week at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, began yesterday, when Essex had the best of the opening day's play in the game with Hampshire.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 23 July, page 11)

Essex yesterday followed up the advantage gained by them on the opening day of this match at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, and last evening they defeated Hampshire by nine wickets. Mr Kortright bowled very effectively for the home side, while the best batting shown during the day was by Barton for the visitors and by Messrs Lucas and Johnston for Essex.

The positions of the leading counties are now as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
Nottingham	9	7	0	2
Surrey	9	7	1	1
Middlesex	9	5	3	1
Somerset	7	4	3	0
Yorkshire	9	4	3	2
Lancashire	8	2	3	3
Gloucestershire	6	1	5	0
Kent	8	1	6	1
Sussex	9	1	8	0

25 July: SOMERSET v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3852.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 26 July, page 2)

Yesterday, at Taunton, the return match between these counties was begun under such excellent conditions as were afforded by a fast wicket and fine weather. There was a large company present. Mr W H Patterson, Mr M C Kemp and Walter Wright were away from the Kent eleven, and the last-named, who had injured his hand, was succeeded by G Webb, formerly professional to the Oxford University C.C., but now engaged at Tonbridge School.

Kent won the toss and took first innings. They made little headway against the bowling of Mr Woods, and five wickets fell for 63. Mr Braybrooke (who had opened the innings with A Hearne) was now joined by Mr Fox, and before they were separated 31 runs were added. Mr Braybrooke was caught at wicket for an excellent 53, which were made without an error and included six fours, a three and eight twos. Martin batted vigorously for a time, but in the end Kent were all out in two and a quarter hours for 124. Mr Woods' analysis came out very well.

Somerset's batting honours were carried off by the captain, Mr H T Hewett, who supplemented his many recent achievements with a brilliant innings of 81, obtained in an hour and three-quarters. He went in first and was eighth out at 129; his principal contributions were ten fours, four threes and five twos. The ninth wicket fell at 133, but Mr Robinson and the Rev A P Wickham put on 47 in 18 minutes for the last partnership. Martin had bowled effectively and the Kent fielding was good.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 July, page 11)

Another brilliant victory has to be recorded for Somerset, making their fourth within 12 days. On Monday evening, at Taunton, Kent had entered upon their second innings with arrears of 56 and had scored 34 for the loss of Mr Braybrooke.

Yesterday the weather was fine and the wicket good. The visitors began badly, Martin and Mr Weigall going by the time that the deficit was cleared off, and with three men out for 56 Mr Wilson joined A Hearne. A determined resistance was offered. In an hour and 20 minutes 76 runs were put on, Mr Wilson being then bowled. Four for 132. It should have been noted that the Rev A P Wickham injured his hand so badly as to necessitate his retirement, and thus Somerset were deprived of their excellent wicket-keeper. The home side, however, bowled and fielded remarkably well, and the Kent innings rather rapidly closed. A Hearne was seventh out, caught at slip, at 180; his 70 occupied three and a quarter hours. Up to a certain point the visitors seemed likely to make a bigger score than 198, but after luncheon the last six men were ousted for 55. Mr Woods by securing two wickets raised his aggregate for the season to 100.

Somerset were left with 143 to make for victory. Kent must have been well pleased to dispose of such great batsmen as Mr Hewett and Mr Palaret for 24, for these gentlemen had played a great part in Somerset's other triumphs. But the visitors found that the West of England team possess other capable cricketers. Messrs Hedley and Challen became partners when the second wicket fell at 24, and by brilliant batting scored the 119 runs then necessary in an hour and a quarter. The Somerset team were enthusiastically cheered by the large company. They had won by eight wickets.

25 July: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3853.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 26 July, page 2)

Within a week of their severe defeat by Surrey at Brighton, the Sussex eleven yesterday visited the Oval and began the return match. The weather was variable, but brightness preponderated, and the cold winds were far less disagreeable during the time that Surrey were batting than in the early part of the day. Lohmann's strained side kept him out of the home team, from which Mr Key was also absent. Places were consequently found for Sharpe and Brockwell, who of late have had to give way to Mr Streatfeild and Richardson. The wicket was slightly difficult and all day the bowlers had the advantage.

Mr Shuter lost the toss, and soon after 12 o'clock Sussex began the batting. They opened badly, for in the course of a few overs Mr Brann, Bean and Marlow were out for 11. Messrs Heasman and Newham were now together, and a steady improvement set in. The bowling underwent a double change, but when Richardson was put on he got Mr Heasman caught at point in his first over. Guttridge gave his captain some little assistance, and during his stay a few good hits were recorded. After he had been caught at third man came the best stand of the venture – viz., that by Mr Newham and Hide. Forty-nine runs were obtained in three-quarters of an hour, and the attack had been frequently changed before Lockwood was tried at the gasometer end for 118.

From this point the innings was rapidly finished off, the last five men falling to Lockwood (who got a great amount of break on the ball) at a cost to him of only seven runs, the analysis of his final piece of bowling being six overs (two maidens), seven runs, five wickets. All five were clean bowled, and it is worthy of mention that Lockwood kept a much better pitch than on Saturday, when various Yorkshiremen were hit by him. Mr Newham, who went in first wicket down at three, carried his bat for a faultless 66. His runs were beautifully made in the course of two and a quarter hours, the chief hits being eight fours, five threes and five twos. Sharpe bowled well, as will be gathered from the analysis.

Mr Walter Read and Abel have been so successful in opening some of Surrey's recent innings that Mr Shuter again adopted this "order," and once more with a signal measure of success. They were proof against the lobs of Humphreys, and 50 runs were scored in 35 minutes. Afterwards this rate slackened, and the partnership had yielded 62 in 50 minutes when Abel was finely caught at point. Mr Streatfeild made matters very lively, and 38 were added in 20 minutes, causing the 100 to appear after an hour and a quarter's play. With Mr Brann and Hide bowling, the game took a turn in favour of Sussex. At 113 Mr Streatfeild, who had materially helped to put on 51, was bowled, and then good catches at wicket sent back Maurice Read and his captain, neither on whom scored. Four for 116.

Henderson, however, again proved his value to the Surrey side and, after being missed by Bean at deep square leg off the lob bowler, he and Mr Read put on 61 in 40 minutes by capital batting. More vigorous play followed the arrival of Lockwood, whose driving was hard and clean. The 200 appeared at 6.25. A little later Marlow let Lockwood escape in the long field. Runs still came at the rate of two a minute. Mr Read played with more care, perhaps, than his companion, and there was a loud burst of applause when the amateur completed the 100. He had taken three hours to obtain the three figures and, in spite of difficult chances to slip and of stumping at 61 and 71, it was a remarkably fine innings.

The score subsequently continued to travel rapidly, and at the close Surrey were 126 on with five wickets to fall. Four hundred runs were made during the day; Surrey obtained theirs at the rate of about 87 an hour. There was a large and enthusiastic company present.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 July, page 11)

Although Sussex have a tradition reputation for playing fine uphill games, it must have been the prospect of further heavy scoring by Surrey and the summer weather that drew the 5,000 spectators to Kennington Oval yesterday. The second stage of the match furnished plenty of excellent batting; but everything was eclipsed by the wonderful form of Mr W W Read, who carried his bat through the Surrey innings, which extended over five hours and a quarter, and although not devoid of error his performance showed some remarkable hitting. Overnight he had made 111 and Lockwood 54, and the figures were 263 for five wickets, Surrey thus holding a lead of 126.

On resuming Lockwood frequently sent the ball to the boundary, and the third hundred appeared within 25 minutes of the renewal of play. Lockwood had a narrow escape of being taken at slip, but when Mr Brann went on he was bowled by a very good ball. In an hour and a half the partnership had yielded 135 runs. Lockwood hit with great vigour throughout, his chief items being 13 fours, three threes and four twos. Six for 309.

Neither Brockwell nor Sharpe gave very much trouble, although the latter stayed for some time while Mr Read scored freely. But another stand was made when Wood arrived. Mr Read, who had put up a ball which either Mr Brann or Humphreys might have secured at short leg, now gave a sharp chance at the wicket, the mistakes occurring when he was 140 and 167. The kindness of the Sussex fielding was further illustrated, for Wood having obtained 21 was missed at deep square leg by Bean off the lob-bowler. The 400 was reached at a quarter to 2. A good catch deep on the leg side sent back Wood. Mr Read was now within five of his second hundred; but Richardson, being a feeble batsman, did not stay long enough to enable this feat to be achieved, and at 413 skied a lob and was caught by the wicket-keeper.

Mr Walter Read was warmly applauded on his way back to the pavilion. He had carried his bat through the innings for 196 and, as already noted, he was in five hours and a quarter; his figures consisted of 26 fours, six threes, 16 twos and 42 singles. This is by no means Mr Read's longest score for Surrey, since a few seasons ago he made 200 against both Cambridge and Lancashire, and once obtained a 300 innings in a match with Oxford. Sussex were in some degree themselves to blame for the heaviness of their rivals' total. Mr Read on Monday afternoon gave two distinct chances with his figures at 61 and 71, Lockwood early escaped, and later (but of less consequence perhaps) came Wood's let off. The bowling figures cannot be very pleasing to the visitors. Humphreys's lobs were expensive; Tate's solitary wicket cost 118 runs, and it was left to Mr Brann, not usually a bowler, to secure the best analysis.

Sussex were 276 behind, so that the game for them was almost hopeless. They began the forlorn fight after luncheon, and the start was disastrous. Lockwood and Richardson each got a wicket with an excellent ball, Bean and Mr Newham being the unfortunate batsmen. The spectators then had a spell of lively hitting; Marlow and Mr Heasman, although occasionally beaten, made various good cuts and drives, scoring 50 in 25 minutes. Mr Streatfeild going on at 59 got Mr Heasman caught at wicket in his first over. Mr Brann followed with more brisk batting, making 20 out of 32 in 20 minutes for the fourth wicket. Guttridge managed to run himself out at 106, probably through his

ignorance of Sharpe's skill as a mid-off, that fieldsman returning the ball in brilliant style. Marlow was sixth out at 112; he made seven fours.

Jesse Hide and Mr Andrews put some spirit into the close of the Sussex innings. The latter was dismissed by a fine catch at extra mid-off, and Butt was last to leave – taken at slip. Surrey won by an innings and 110 runs. The wicket on both days frequently gave the bowlers great assistance.

25 July: YORKSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3854.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 26 July, page 2)

The wickets at Bradford have secured a good reputation for their trueness, and yesterday found the batsmen once more with the conditions favourable for them. There were about 8,000 people present, and the spectators were generous in their applause of the admirable Gloucestershire defence. The visitors were in all day, despite the excellent bowling and fielding of their rivals.

After losing Dr E M Grace at five Gloucestershire did well. Mr Radcliffe threw plenty of vigour into his play, and with Mr Rice raised the figures to 42 before he was out lbw, following which came a long stand by Messrs Rice and Ferris. These gentlemen advanced the total to 126, or 84 for the partnership, when Mr Rice fell to a fine catch at short slip. He was in two hours and a quarter for 51, and his chief hits were six fours, a three and seven twos. Painter gave little trouble, and four men were out for 130.

Dr W G Grace afterwards played very well, although he thrice had a narrow escape. Mr Ferris, who exercised every care, was dismissed fifth at 161 – caught at wicket for 46. He had been in while 119 were made in two and a half hours. Dr Grace was seventh to leave – caught at slip, at 215. His 53 occupied two hours, and the chief items in a good innings were six fours, three threes and five twos. The closing hour of the day was marked by the fine play of Mr Kitcat, who with Roberts has so far added 57 for the ninth partnership.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 July, page 11)

The turf at Bradford yesterday was as true as on Monday. Gloucestershire in their turn had a lengthened spell of fielding. Although the weather proved dull the attendance numbered about 5,000, and the spectators seemed well pleased with the fine batting of the home team.

Wardall and Peel made a long stand and were together an hour and 40 minutes, scoring 108. Then, later on, when it seemed probable that Yorkshire would be at a disadvantage on the first innings, Ulyett came to the rescue and, showing much of his old form, scored 60 in an hour and three-quarters. Mr Jackson, in attempting to hold a return catch from Dr W G Grace on Monday, so injured his right hand as to prevent his taking further part in the game. Yorkshire in the end obtained a lead of 19 runs on the first innings.

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

The wicket at Park-avenue, Bradford, remained true to the end of this match, and thus the batsmen always held the advantage. On Tuesday evening the record was pretty even, Gloucestershire, with their second innings virtually to get through, being only six runs behind.

They resumed their batting at 11.35, and with the figures at 21 Mr Sainsbury fell to a catch at mid-off; but Roberts and Mr Radcliffe gave the home side much trouble, and 67 were added during the partnership. Roberts drove the ball into the hands of mid-off at 88 and 11 runs later Dr E M Grace was taken in the long field and Mr Radcliffe at slop, the latter having put together an excellent 41,

in which were seven fours. Painter offered little resistance, while Mr Kitcat left at 126.

Having dismissed six of their rivals at a comparatively small cost the Yorkshiremen began to think of victory. Dr W G Grace and Mr Rice, however, by very steady defence put on 40 for the seventh wicket, and a further stand was made by Dr W G Grace and Mr Ferris. The former, who was in an hour and a quarter for 32, was out to a skilful catch at slip at 182, but Mr Ferris and Murch kept up their wickets for some time, and it was 4.20 when the visitors' innings ended for 218. No less than nine men had scored double figures.

As there were only two hours left for play and Yorkshire wanted 200 runs to win, everything pointed to an unfinished match. And such was the result in site of the closing brilliancy of Lord Hawke's cricket. The Yorkshire captain put together 74 by ten fours, five threes, four twos and singles. Wardall helped to add 65 for the first wicket, and later on Wainwright made five fours, a three and a single. When the match was drawn Yorkshire, with seven men in hand, wanted only 54 to win. The day was dull but several thousand spectators were present.

25 July: DURHAM v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/102/102940.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 26 July, page 2)

A fine innings of 113 by Mr Bainbridge, the Warwickshire captain, characterized the opening day's play in this match at Sunderland yesterday. Warwickshire held possession of the wicket during the greater part of the cricketing hours, while after running up the heavy total of 340 they dismissed five of their rivals.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 July, page 11)

The fine batting of Mr Bainbridge and various other members of the team enabled Warwickshire to secure a great advantage in this match at Sunderland, on Monday, while yesterday the visitors bowled well and won the game by an innings and 69 runs.

25 July: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128760.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 26 July, page 2)

At Lord's yesterday the batsmen found the wicket hard and true, consequently it was not surprising that a fast rate of scoring was maintained. Going in late in the day against a heavy total by the visitors Marylebone fared well.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 27 July, page 11)

At Lord's yesterday, after an excellent match, Marylebone beat Northamptonshire by three wickets. The home side held a lead of six on the first innings. Their victory was largely attributable to the batting of Mr Maude and the bowling of Shacklock.

28 July: LANCASHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3855.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 29 July, page 4)

The Aigburth Ground, Liverpool, yesterday, was visited by between 4,000 and 5,000 people to see the opening of this match. Both counties were well represented. With the wicket in good order Gloucestershire, it seemed, had got the best of matters by winning the toss and going in first.

Dr E M Grace was taken at mid-off at 18, after which came a stand by Messrs Radcliffe and Rice, the former hitting freely, and when a catch at cover-point dismissed Mr Radcliffe the total was 51. From this point Gloucestershire fared ill, and Mr Rice alone offered any substantial resistance to the admirable bowling of Watson, Mold and Briggs. Dr W G Grace pulled a ball into his wicket and at 142 Mr Rice was last to leave – bowled. He had been in two and three-quarter hours and by careful defence had put together 62 without giving a chance; his chief hits were six fours, five threes and seven twos.

Lancashire lost two men for 30 runs, but then Mr M'Laren and Smith put on 74 by vigorous batting, and at the end of the day they were still together. Roberts, the Gloucestershire bowler, injured his hand rather severely. With only two of the side out Lancashire are within 38 of their rivals' record.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 30 July, page 7)

A fine innings of 135 by Mr A C M'Laren, the Old Harrovian, characterized the closing day's play in this match yesterday at the Aigburth Ground, Liverpool. When the game ceased, on Thursday night the home eleven, with eight wickets in hand, were within 38 of their rivals' score.

Mr M'Laren and Smith were separated at 143, their partnership having yielded 113 runs. Briggs stayed while 60 were put on in three-quarters of an hour, and Baker also rendered useful assistance. Quickly after luncheon Mr M'Laren was sixth out, played on to "WG." He had been in three and a half hours, and his 135 embraced 19 fours, four threes and 12 twos. During the long stay he gave a couple of chances to slip, with his score at 13 and 85. This is the greatest feat Mr M'Laren has achieved for his county, his previous best innings being the 100 at Brighton a couple of years ago. The last Lancastrian left at 20 minutes to 3, the innings having extended over five hours and produced 311 runs.

With both the Graces lame and Roberts injured so much as to cause his absence, the outlook for the visitors was not bright; they were in a minority, too, of 169 runs. Two wickets went for 22, and at 46 Painter, who had hit with some freedom, and Dr W G Grace, who had been in half an hour without scoring, were both dismissed. In spite of a stand by Messrs Kitcat and Ferris Gloucestershire were all out for 139 and Lancashire won by an innings and 30 runs.

28 July: ESSEX v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128133.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 29 July, page 4)

In this match at Leyton, yesterday, Surrey sent a very moderate team to oppose Essex, giving their leading professionals a rest in view of their important contest with Nottingham next Monday. Mr R P Lewis, who has secured a great reputation for wicket-keeping at Winchester, was given a place in the team.

Going in first at a quarter past 12 Surrey retained possession of the wickets until a quarter to 4. Pickett and Mead both bowled well. The early part of the Essex innings was characterized by the excellent cricket of Carpenter, who, going in first, was sixth to be dismissed at 114, after a stay of an hour and a half.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 30 July, page 7)

Yesterday was a batsman's day at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton. Essex overnight, with four wickets in hand, were leading by 21. Messrs F E Rowe and Taberer, who had become partners when the sixth was lost at 114, were not separated until the figures reached 278. The stand had, in less than two hours, produced 164 runs.

Mr Taberer was the first to leave through a catch at slip; in his steady 65 were nine fours, four threes and four twos. Both batsmen were ousted within a few runs of each other. Mr F E Rowe's 129 was a fine innings, played without a mistake, the driving being particularly brilliant. Richardson bowled him at 300. He obtained his 129 in two and a half hours by 16 fours, 10 threes, six twos and singles. The last man left at 1.20, Essex holding a lead of 175. Richardson's analysis came out well and his eight wickets averaged 14 runs each. Mr R P Lewis, in consequence of a severely bruised hand, could not keep wicket for Surrey and will not play any more in this match.

Throughout the afternoon Surrey scored heavily, runs coming at the rate of about 100 an hour. The early freedom of Brockwell and Baldwin was succeeded by the vigorous batting of Ayres, Mr Read and Watts. Ayres and Street put on 99 in 55 minutes for the third wicket, and Mr Read and Ayres 60 in 40 minutes for the fourth. Essex, however, fielded badly and various chances were missed. Ayres gave three chances before being taken at slip for 86, in which were eight fours, two threes and 11 twos. Watts carried his bat for 60 made in 50 minutes by 11 fours, two threes, two twos and six singles. Essex went in to make 167 for victory.

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

At the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, on Saturday, the cricket was particularly interesting. Essex, with nine wickets in hand, were left with 167 to make for victory, and they resumed their task at 11.35. Richardson and Bailey were the bowlers.

Mr Druce, the not-out, was speedily dismissed, but Mr F E Rowe and Carpenter both showed excellent form and, while they were in, the game seemed to have turned in favour of Essex. Mr F E Rowe contributed 35 of the 50 added for the third wicket, and Carpenter, after playing steadily, was

bowled by Richardson at 78, the result of an hour and three-quarters' play. Mr Hailey, who escaped at slip, batted with considerable freedom, and at one time success seemed within reach of the home side. The 100 appeared with only four men gone, but at 118 there began a series of disasters, which included the running-out of Mr Owen. Eight wickets were down for 125. Burns and Mr E F Rowe obtained 22, but then in quick succession the latter and Mead were out, and the game ended at 3 o'clock.

Richardson had again bowled with great effect, and his full record was 15 wickets at an average of 11 runs each. Surrey won by 17 runs, after an excellent match in which over 1,000 were made.

Monday 1 August, page 6: THE COUNTIES

The positions of the leading counties are as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
Nottinghamshire	9	7	0	2
Surrey	10	8	1	1
Middlesex	9	5	3	1
Somerset	8	5	3	0
Yorkshire	10	4	3	3
Lancashire	9	3	3	3
Gloucestershire	8	1	6	1
Kent	9	1	7	1
Sussex	10	1	9	0

Saturday 30 July, page 7: THE CANTERBURY WEEK

On Monday begins the most famous of cricket festivals. Canterbury promises this year to be in no way behind its predecessors. The ill-fortune that has so closely pursued the Kent eleven in recent matches has by no means dampened the ardour of the county cricket community, for it is known that Mr W H Patterson and Mr M C Kemp will be able to assist the team, who, with this additional strength, should give Gloucestershire and Nottinghamshire good games.

The latter, as yet unbeaten in county matches, appears on the last three days, and whatever may be the result of Notts v Surrey, their visit will arouse widespread interest. Gloucestershire v Kent is a good contest for the opening of the week. The Graces have achieved many great feats of the St Lawrence Ground, and their welcome will be of more than ordinary warmth.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings will find the "Old Stagers" once more at the theatre, where they will play *The Duchess of Bayswater*, *The Magistrate*, *A Show of Hands* and *Young Mrs Winthrop*. Among other attractions there are the dances at the Music-hall on Wednesday and Friday, while illuminations of the Dane John and a lantern parade (for Thursday) are also announced.

Monday 1 August, page 6: TO-DAY'S MATCHES

For some time past the prospective interest of the followers of county cricket has been almost wholly concentrated on the return match between Surrey and Nottinghamshire, which begins this morning at the Oval. Since the defeat of Surrey at Trent-bridge in Whitsun week everything has tended to increase the importance of Surrey v Notts in relation to the championship.

Beyond a defeat outside the county circle – viz., by the Marylebone Club at Lord's – Nottinghamshire this season has not known defeat; while Surrey, apart from their losses at the hands of Nottinghamshire and Cambridge University, has had a wonderfully brilliant career. The county records of the two sides are – Notts, seven wins and two drawn games, nine matches played; Surrey, eight wins, one loss and one drawn game, ten matches played.

Nottinghamshire will be represented by Mr J A Dixon . . . Mr C W Wright was selected by the committee, but withdrew in favour of Daft. The Surrey team will be Mr J A Shuter . . . The absence of Mr Key from the list was not generally expected.

At Canterbury the Week opens with Gloucestershire and Kent. The latter will be represented by Mr W H Patterson . . . Mr F Marchant, it will be noted, stands out of the side. Dr W G Grace, whose knee has given him much trouble of late, may not be able to appear for Gloucestershire. Dr E M Grace, however, is certain to play . . .

1 August: KENT v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3856.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 August, page 8)

The 51st celebration of the Canterbury Cricket Festival began yesterday. Unfortunately heavy rain fell in the morning, and the ancient city was naturally somewhat shorn of its usual gaiety. Two good county matches furnish the cricket programme, the first of these, as last year, being against Gloucestershire, and the second (which begins on Thursday) against Nottinghamshire.

The fortunes of both Gloucestershire and Kent are, up to the present, at a low ebb; neither has gained more than one victory. Both sides suffered from their inability to put their best elevens into the field. Dr W G Grace (who has not thoroughly recovered from his injured knee) was unable to captain Gloucestershire, whose team may fairly be considered as further weakened by the inability of Mr Kitcat and Roberts to play. Mr Patterson captained Kent, who were without the services of Mr M C Kemp, owing to indisposition; the duties of the wicket-keeper thus devolved on Mr Malden. Mr Marchant, who has not been very successful this year, had the generosity to stand out of the team.

Of course the adverse weather kept a large number of intending spectators away, yet 2,918 people paid for admission to the St Lawrence Ground. The heavy rains of the Saturday night and yesterday morning prevented a start being made until 3 o'clock. Kent won the toss, and A Hearne and Mr Braybrooke went in; Mr Ferris and Murch were intrusted with the early bowling.

The ball was slipper and the batting triumphed. Hearne cut Mr Ferris in his first over twice for four, and Mr Braybrooke also hit freely. In a little over a quarter of an hour 31 runs were recorded, at which point Murch gave up the ball to Woof. Still runs came pretty quickly, both batsmen hitting Woof to square-leg for four. This bowler, however, soon sent in a splendid ball, which took Mr Braybrooke's off stump; there was so much break on that the batsman did not try to play the ball. One for 44.

Mr Weigall came, and after the 50 had been passed the run-getting was checked. The newcomer, who had an escape at the hands of Woof in the slips, was easily taken by mid-off when the 60 had been completed. Mr Patterson incautiously played the ball back to the bowler who held it at the second attempt. Alec Hearne continued to bat well, letting little that was worth hitting escape him. He next had for a partner Mr Knowles, who was speedily dismissed by a catch at wicket. Mr Wilson stayed a little while until a ball from Woof clean bowled him. Five for 82.

Mr Fox joined A Hearne, and the hitting became lively. The "100," which had been obtained at the rate of one per minute, was signalled at 20 minutes to 5, and A Hearne, whose driving was excellent, reached his "50" soon afterwards. Forty-five runs were gained in about half an hour, then Mr Fox had the misfortune to play the ball on. Six for 127. Martin was soon caught at mid-on, and then Wright aided A Hearne. Both these batsmen played well. The wisdom of keeping Mr Ferris on to bowl for three hours may be questioned; after that time he relinquished the ball to Murch, while Mr Croome superseded Woof. No separation had been effected when the hour for drawing stumps arrived, 57 runs having been added since the fall of the last wicket. Hearne, who is within two of his "century," was most heartily cheered.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 August, page 8)

A great change for the better in the weather caused a vast improvement all round yesterday at Canterbury. Between five and six thousand people visited the St Lawrence Ground, and throughout the afternoon great enthusiasm was shown. Kent resumed their batting at 11.35, when Alec Hearne and Wright, the not-outs (98 and 26), faced the attacks of Mr Ferris and Woof.

Hearne completed his "century" with a couple of singles, but when four only had been added to his over-night score Wright had the mishap to play on. The eighth wicket had yielded 61. Mr Malden arrived, and at noon the "200" was signalled. At 228, however, Mr Ferris completely beat Mr Malden, and Walter Hearne joined his namesake. Twenty were speedily added and then Murch relieved Woof. The last arrival made a couple of fours from the change, but at length Murch clean bowled him. Alec Hearne carried his bat throughout the innings for a superb 116; his hitting was exceptionally fine and he did not give a chance; he had been at the wickets four hours and 20 minutes, and his chief items were 15 fours, five threes and 13 twos.

When Gloucestershire started their batting at 1 o'clock the wicket had become rather difficult. Dr E M Grace and Mr Rice were first placed in opposition to Martin and W Hearne. A smart one-handed catch at mid-on quickly disposed of the visitors' captain. Mr Ferris came, but runs were obtained at a very slow rate, seven only being the result of 20 minutes' play. Mr Rice was in half-an-hour without making anything. Mr Ferris, however, made several useful leg hits, and at 27 Walter Hearne gave way to Wright. At luncheon the score stood at 29 for one wicket. Afterwards Gloucestershire fared badly and were all out for 91.

With a deficit of 165 Dr E M Grace and Mr Rice began the "follow-on." Martin and W Hearne once more took up the attack. Only eight were obtained when the Gloucestershire captain drove the ball splendidly to the on, and Mr Fox secured it just in front of the spectators. Mr Ferris came in, but the batting was very quiet, and at 19 he played the ball round to short leg, where Martin held it with one hand. When 50 had been reached Wright relieved W Hearne. A substitute fielded for Mr Braybrooke, and to some purpose, for at 55 he caught Mr Radcliffe, and served Captain Luard in the same manner before the latter had scored. Mr Rice, whose patient batting was quite a masterpiece, was at length clean bowled; he had been in an hour and ten minutes for 19 runs. A cat at mid-on, with the total at 77, dismissed Mr Page.

Mr Croome joined Painter, and there seemed every prospect of the match being concluded last evening. These batsmen, however, played out time. Gloucestershire have four wickets in hand with which to obtain the 59 runs necessary to escape a single-innings defeat.

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

With six of their best men out Gloucestershire yesterday morning required 59 runs to avoid a single-innings defeat. Painter and Mr Croome, who had already added 50 for their partnership, were opposed at 11.35 by Walter Hearne and Martin.

The professional threw plenty of vigour into his game; by three strokes he scored 12 runs (two cuts and a square-leg hit), and 35 were put on in rather more than 20 minutes. At 141 came the separation, Mr Croome, who had contributed 22 towards the 64 made for the seventh wicket, being bowled. The ninth wicket fell at 163, but Board and Painter averted the innings defeat, and afterwards did so well as to set Kent 24 runs to win. Painter took out his bat for 65.

Kent found their apparently light task of more trouble than was anticipated. Mr Ferris and Murch bowled well, but eventually Kent won by seven wickets.

1 August: LANCASHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3857.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 August, page 8)

Upwards of 20,000 people visited the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday, when the return match between Lancashire and Yorkshire began, and when, by their remarkable batting, the home side scored 437 runs for the loss on only four wickets. The Yorkshire team was weakened by the absence of Mr F S Jackson, whose injured hand kept him away, but otherwise the sides were thoroughly representative.

Lancashire quickly lost Sugg, but the partnership of Ward and Smith was long and profitable. They got together at 24 and in two hours and a half added 189 runs. Both men played excellently, and neither appeared to give a chance. Smith was the first to leave, caught at mid-off. Later in the day came a great stand by Briggs and Ward, who put on 113 for the fourth wicket. Ward left at 331 for 180, a superb innings, free from fault. He obtained his runs in four and a quarter hours, contributing 28 fours.

Further trouble was in store for the visitors, and Briggs and Baker (who, however, were each missed) ran up 106 in the last hour and a quarter. Briggs managed to get into three figures shortly before the drawing of stumps.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 August, page 8)

Although the day was dull the 10,000 persons who assembled at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, saw plenty of bright and interesting cricket. Some rain in the night had affected the pitch and Lancashire's score did not reach the dimensions promised by the overnight position, when only four men had been lost in running up 437.

Briggs contributed his 115 in two and a half hours, and his chief items were 16 fours, two threes and six twos. So rapidly were the home men put out that in 15 overs the last six wickets produced only 34 runs, and Lancashire's innings, which had extended over six hours, closed for 471.

Yorkshire threw plenty of spirit into their uphill fight. Mr E Smith played faultlessly and was in an hour and a half, making seven fours, two threes and five twos. With arrears of 262 Yorkshire followed on. Lord Hawke batted well until he was bowled at 66 . . .

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

Although Yorkshire had batted pretty well against the overwhelming score of their rivals at Old on Tuesday evening, their position when play was resumed yesterday afforded little hope of the avoidance of defeat. With nine wickets to fall they were yet 188 runs in arrear.

Tunnicliffe and Wardall, the not-outs, were quickly separated, the latter being caught at cover-point. Mr E Smith, who had done so well in the first innings, gave far less trouble in this instance, while Tunnicliffe at 118 was taken at wicket for an excellent 50. His play was free from fault, and during his stay of an hour and three-quarters he made eight fours, three threes and two twos. Four down.

The remainder of the side were steadily dismissed, and Lancashire eventually won by an innings and 83 runs. Briggs took 13 wickets in the double innings at an average cost of 16 runs each.

1 August: SURREY v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3858.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 August, page 8)

Over 31,000 persons paid for admission at the Oval yesterday, a "gate" that beats all records, while, with the inclusion of the members, the total attendance must have reached 34,000. Notts have won seven out of nine matches and drawn two; Surrey have won eight out of ten, and lost one and drawn two.

Nottinghamshire are represented by their best team, and it is worthy of note that Mr A O Jones appears for them, although he failed to get in the Cambridge eleven. Surrey included Brockwell in their team in place of Mr Key, a selection that came in for good deal of severe criticism in various quarters. The absence of Wood, the wicket-keeper, whose hands have been greatly knocked about, was a great loss to the side; and Mr A F Clarke, of Mitcham, took his place.

On the first day's play neither side can claim very much advantage. On a slow and difficult wicket the bowlers had the upper hand, and the fine analysis of Shacklock was followed by Lockwood's wonderful bowling. Five times he hit the stumps, and the amount of break which he got on the ball was clearly shown when the wickets of Shrewsbury and Gunn were taken. Both batsmen declined to play the ball, thinking it was wide of the stumps and dangerous to strike with so many men in the slips and at mid-off. But in each instance the ball broke in and struck the wicket.

Maurice Read and Gunn carried off the batting honours, and late in the day Mr Robinson played Lockwood perhaps better than any other member of his side. Various mistakes were made in the fielding on both sides, but against this must be placed the fine catches by Lohmann and Shacklock. Albert Trott there was a little ran it did not affect the play. The north-westerly wind, so strong during the earlier hours, lulled as the day wore on.

Mr Shuter won the toss, and Surrey decided to bat first on a wicket that was a little slow and gave early signs of bumping. Mr W W Read and Abel opened the innings shortly after 12 o'clock. Attewell and Shacklock were the bowlers. The batsmen played with care, but after three maiden overs there came a single by Abel and three by Mr Read, both on the leg side. After narrowly escaping being bowled and caught at slip, Mr Read, in attempting to drive, was easily taken at slip. Twenty-five minutes were taken to make the nine runs for the first wicket.

Lohmann was next in, but the play ruled quiet. The bowling was very true and the batsmen seemed to be disinclined to force the play. Matters improved, however, when Abel, by a clever square-leg hit, made the first four of the match. Then there came a ball which completely beat Lohmann. It shot past the off stump and went to the boundary as a bye. Nine runs in an over of Attewell's included four (a late cut by Lohmann), and then at 34 Abel had his off stump bowled down. Maurice Read arrived and quickly drove Shacklock for four and obtained a like number from the other end; but in this instance Shacklock should have caught him. Now came another fine cut for four by Read. Lohmann was afterwards out, an easy catch at point sending him back. Three for 49.

Mr Robinson at slip badly missed the Surrey captain immediately he arrived. The cricket then became quite lively. Mr Shuter and Read each scored four, the former by a cut, but Read's drive should have been saved by Gunn in the long field. This fieldsman atoned for his error soon afterwards by stopping a hard drive from Read off Barnes, who had relieved Attewell at 64 - the

first change in the attack taking place after the game had lasted an hour and a half. Flowers was also tried in place of Shacklock. After scoring 19 Mr Shuter skied a ball towards extra slip. It appeared to be an easy catch for Shacklock but, to the astonishment of the spectators, he left the ball to Gunn, who could not reach it soon enough. In the next over from Flowers Mr Shuter made a lofty drive into the long field, and Gunn only just failed to secure the ball. The score then rapidly reached 94, at which total the luncheon interval intervened. In the 40 minutes of their partnership Read and Mr Shuter had put on 45 runs.

When play was resumed at ten minutes to 3 o'clock the bowlers were Attewell and Shacklock. A loud cheer greeted the "100" – a manifestation which was renewed when Shacklock, by a brilliant return catch, dismissed Mr Shuter. The ball was taken with the right hand from a hard drive. The stand had produced 51 runs in three-quarters of an hour. Four for 100. Henderson arrived. Read made 11 by two cuts and a drive, but at 113, in trying to get a good ball round to leg, he was clean bowled. In an hour and a quarter of his stay he had made 44 by good, vigorous play; his chief hits were eight fours, two threes and two twos. Without addition to the score Lockwood was clean bowled, and at 114 a smart catch at slip disposed of Henderson. Mr Streatfeild was easily taken off Attewell at mid-off at 120. Sherwin might have caught both Brockwell and Sharpe, and after the last-named had been bowled the wicket-keeper also let off Clarke. Nine men down for 122. Brockwell obtained four by a good on-drive, but Shacklock then bowled Mr Clarke's leg stump, and Surrey were all out at 3.45 for 129. Shacklock's bowling analysis was eight wickets for 59 runs.

Shrewsbury and Mr Dixon began the Nottinghamshire batting; Lohmann and Lockwood were the bowlers. The first score came from Mr Dixon, who obtained four by a cut, and soon Shrewsbury made the same number by a similar stroke. Fifteen runs were quickly recorded, and then Shrewsbury (who had been badly struck on the arm by Lockwood) was bowled by a ball which he did not attempt to play. The ball appeared to be well off the wicket, but it broke in and just touched the leg-bail.

Gunn, who came in, scored various runs from Lohmann. Mr W W Read was severely hurt at player in fielding one of the cuts, and a delay of some minutes occurred. Shortly afterwards the light became so bad that the game was suspended for a quarter of an hour. At 39 the Notts captain was run out through starting for a single. Gunn sent him back, but Lockwood, fielding his own bowling at mid-off, threw the ball and knocked down the wicket. Two for 39.

When Barnes came in Gunn scored four from a ball which the wicket-keeper should have caught. Fifty was reached at 10 minutes past 5, and 11 runs later Abel relieved Lohmann. This change resulted in Barnes being caught on the boundary in front of the pavilion by Lohmann; it was a wonderful catch, the ball being taken high up at a very awkward angle. When it was seen that Lohmann had held the ball the crowd cheered most lustily. Flowers arrived and at once made a couple of fours by drives off Abel. When the score stood at 71 Gunn received a ball from Lockwood, and thinking it safer to leave the ball alone he did not attempt to play it. The ball broke and took Gunn's wicket.

Flowers made matters very lively during his brief stay, and among many good hits was one off Abel, which sent the ball over the grand stand. Lockwood bowled him at 94, and sent back Attewell eight runs later. Shacklock, after being missed by Lohmann at slip, was caught by the wicket-keeper standing back, making seven men out for 105. Messrs Jones and Robinson remained together some time, but neither of them could do much with the bowling of Lockwood and Sharpe, the last-named sending down three maidens in succession. Lohmann went on again, but Lockwood

got the wicket, bowling Mr Jones at 118. Daft was next, but no further wicket had fallen at the drawing of stumps, although Lockwood in the last over missed an easy return catch from Mr Robinson. With two wickets in hand, Notts are only six runs behind the Surrey total.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 August, page 8)

During the greater part of yesterday the match at the Oval was a very open affair, but in the last hour the spectators saw by far the best batting that the game has furnished. Gunn and Barnes got together at a most critical time for their side, and before they were September Notts was in a fair way to success.

The day's cricket was remarkably keen, but the fielding of the home eleven could not be compared with the wonderful accuracy of the Notts men. Though Mr J Shuter again batted excellently when things were going badly for his side, he only temporarily stemmed the tide of ill-fortune which had set in with the early running out of Mr Read. The wicket played far better than on Monday, but the bowling of Lockwood in the first few minutes was so effective as to bring his record in the visitors' innings to eight for 67. Over 29,000 persons paid for admission yesterday, bringing the "gate" for the two days up to 60,000. Dull weather prevailed throughout.

Daft and Mr Robinson proceeded with the visitors' batting at 11.35, and in his first and second overs Lockwood got out both Mr Robinson and Sherwin, the former caught at extra slip and the latter at cover-point. Only a single had been added to the overnight score of 123, so that Surrey held a lead on the first innings of five runs. Lockwood's eight wickets averaged eight runs each, and his record ran Shacklock's eight for 59 very close.

Surrey entered upon their second innings at 12 o'clock, and in the first over sent down by Attewell Mr Read lost his wicket in attempting a second run. The ball was well fielded by Mr Robinson at mid-on. Shacklock bowled from the pavilion end, and Lohmann, who had joined Abel, was quickly caught at point for the second time in the match. Two for seven was not a promising start for the home side. Maurice Read and Abel added 11 runs very quickly, the latter making a couple of skilful twos on the leg side. For the next ten minutes not a run was scored, and then a shower of rain caused a brief delay. Subsequently a good catch at point dismissed Read, making three men out for 21.

Mr Shuter arrived, and the play for some time proved interesting. Abel got a single just out of reach of Shrewsbury, and then a misunderstanding between the batsmen nearly cost the Surrey captain his wicket. Mr A O Jones, from mid-on, missed his aim at the stumps. Mr Dixon almost caught Abel in the slips, after which came many fine strokes, mainly by Mr Shuter, who made three cuts (two fours and a three) from Attewell. Barnes relieved the last-named at 43, but Abel obtained four by a leg hit and a like number by a cut from the new bowler. The 50 appeared at 25 minutes past 1 o'clock, and the figures stood at 63 when Abel was dismissed. Mr Shuter had cut a ball to Daft deep at third man and, the fieldsman not taking it cleanly, the batsmen started for a single. Daft, with a wonderful throw, upset the wicket. Forty-two had been put on in 40 minutes, and Abel's capital 28 had occupied an hour and a half. Four for 63. Henderson should have been caught by Sherwin from the first ball sent him. Attewell then resumed in place of Barnes, but Mr Shuter scored steadily, making four and three, while Henderson also cut Shacklock to the boundary. At luncheon the score was 89 for four wickets.

Eight runs only were added after luncheon when Attewell, following his bowling well up, made a

clever return catch which sent back Mr Shuter. The ball bumped a good deal and the Surrey captain in playing forward skied it. Mr Shuter had made an excellent 43 in an hour and ten minutes. His chief hits were five fours and three threes. Five for 97. Lockwood, who came next, obtained four by a good off-drive, and the 100 was reached at 3 o'clock. The same batsman scored four by a couple of drives, the first of them to the on. Various small hits and some sharp running raised the score. Flowers took up the bowling at Shacklock's end with the score at 122, and the change was speedily successful. Lockwood played under a ball and was taken at wicket. He had obtained 19 out of the 25 added for the partnership. Six down.

Henderson, who played with every care, was out at 128 to a fine catch at short slip. Mr Jones took the ball low down and wide with his right hand. Henderson's 17 had occupied an hour and ten minutes. The light was bad and all against the batsmen, while the fielding and bowling were of great excellence. The finish of Surrey's innings hove in sight, as Mr Streatfeild was finely taken at mid-off, and when the eighth wicket went at 130 there remained only Brockwell, Sharpe and Mr Clarke.

The first-named scored four by a big drive, which pitched a long way out of Gunn's reach. At 145 Shacklock was given a trial at Attewell's end. Every run was loudly cheered, and Sharpe elicited applause by getting the fast bowler away to leg for a couple. More fine fielding by Daft and Mr Dixon was loudly applauded, but then Brockwell cut Shacklock finely, bringing up the 150 shortly after 4 o'clock. The last alteration in the bowling had been a failure, so Attewell was put on again at 155; but Flowers got the wicket, Brockwell being caught by Sherwin. The stand of 25 had been very useful. Nine for 155. Mr Clarke, the last man, made an on-drive for four, and then a "bailer" from Attewell sent back Sharpe, and at 10 minutes past 4 Surrey completed their second innings for 159 after three hours and 25 minutes' play. Flowers and Attewell had been the most successful bowlers.

Nottinghamshire began their task of making 165 for victory at 4.25. The same order was maintained as on Monday; Lohmann and Lockwood were the bowlers. The crowd had greatly encroached upon the boundary, and the spectators were lying a dozen deep inside the ring. There was not a murmur among the vast company as the game was renewed. After a couple of maidens the silence was broken, a stroke by Shrewsbury on the leg side giving the visitors their first run. Then came a drive for three by the same batsman, but the figures were only four when, to the consternation of the Surrey supporters, Mr Streatfeild at short slip dropped an easy catch and let Mr Dixon escape. Only a maiden had been sent down by Lohmann when Lockwood clean bowled the Notts captain, who completely misjudged the ball.

Gunn and Shrewsbury were now partners. The latter was loudly cheered for a fine boundary drive, but at 12 he was out to a neat catch at slip. The dismissal of the most dangerous of the visitors was the signal for a great burst of cheering. Two for 12 was a bad beginning.

Gunn and Barnes played steadily. There were very many small hits, and a couple of runs came from an overthrow. Gunn cut Lockwood for three and four, and later he drove him to the boundary. Barnes, too, scored freely, but a four by him through the slips was very near to Mr Streatfeild. When the innings had lasted 55 minutes the record was 48. Abel now went on in place of Lockwood, but Gunn cut him for four, and 52 appeared at 5.35. Lohmann gave way to Sharpe at 57, while a single later Lockwood resumed. The batsmen were thoroughly set and playing fine cricket. Sharpe overthrew the ball to the boundary and increased a single by Gunn to five. Runs followed rapidly. Gunn made three and four to leg and Barnes four by a cut. At 81 Mr Streatfeild and Lohmann went on, the latter at the gasometer end. Gunn reached his 50 at 6.15 and, with

Lockwood bowling at the pavilion end, he gained four by a fine cut and sent up the 100. The crowd had greatly encroached on the playing ground and caused some inconvenience. Mr Walter Read's "lobs" were tried without effect, but at 106 the long partnership was severed by Lockwood, who bowled Barnes's off stump.

In an hour and 20 minutes 94 runs had been obtained by superb batting. Barnes's share of these was 40, in which were four fours, two threes and three twos. Daft arrived, and at the drawing of stumps Nottinghamshire, with seven wickets in hand, wanted 56 to win.

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

The keen struggle for supremacy between these two counties ended yesterday in the triumph of Nottinghamshire. It was a hard fight from beginning to end and, until the closing hour of the second day, neither side for any long time could claim an advantage. Repeatedly the result seemed to be in the balance; the friends of both sides looked anxiety for the stroke of fortune that was to turn the scale, and this came in the sand of Gunn and Barnes, whose brilliant batting was among the best episodes of the match.

Notts had the contest well in hand on Tuesday night, but the Surrey bowlers – Lockwood and Lohmann – made a great effort yesterday to save the game, and momentarily (when the fifth wicket fell) they seemed to have a chance of success. But the wicket-keeper erred seriously, and Daft, who had been let off, gave no further opportunity of dismissal. This batsman's careful defence and patience was the characteristic of the closing day's cricket. How generally it was a bowler's match may be gathered from a glance at the score, which shows that 36 wickets fell during the three days, averaging only a fraction above 16 runs each. It was Nottinghamshire's second win against Surrey this season.

Some 5,000 people gathered to see the finish of the match, and the aggregate numbers that paid for admission during the three days at the Oval were 63,763.

Nottinghamshire, who, with seven wickets in hand, required 56 runs for victory, continued their innings at 11.35, Gunn and Daft, the not-outs, facing the bowling of Lohmann and Lockwood. Both batsmen were very cautious, though Lohmann was twice within an ace of sending back Daft. After a maiden from each end came a couple of singles. Gunn showed fine defence in stopping a couple of fast yorkers from Lockwood, and then the latter, having been applauded for a good piece of fielding, got Gunn caught by the wicket-keeper, standing back. Only four runs had been added in the eight overs sent down. Gunn was heartily cheered on his way into the pavilion; his 58 had been made by the best batting in the match, and had occupied altogether two hours. Four for 113.

Flowers, who joined Daft, was thrice nearly bowled; but, although he never seemed at home, he stayed out eight overs, during which seven runs were obtained. Four of these Flowers made by cutting a bad ball from Lohmann to the boundary, and then the latter dismissed him with a bailer. With the first five Notts men out for 120 Surrey's hopes in some degree revived. Lockwood and Lohmann worked hard and the fielding was keen.

Attewell, the new batsman, cut Lohmann for four, and Daft scored a good three on the leg side from Lockwood. Having been at the wickets an hour and a quarter for seven Daft gave a chance to Mr Clarke, the wicket-keeper, who, however, dropped the ball. This was an irreparable error. Attewell obtained a fortunate four, just out of reach of Mr Streatfeild at slip, and then came two other fours –

one by Attewell, a drive, and the other by Daft. With 142 runs up Abel made a skilful catch at extra slip, which got rid of Attewell; he secured the ball close to the ground with his left hand. Six for 142.

Twenty-three runs were yet necessary to give Nottingham the victory when Shacklock joined Daft. Neither batsman attempted to score freely; they were content for the most part with sharp singles until after the 150 had been registered. Then the end came quickly. Each player drove Lohmann for four (both well run), and at 160 Sharpe tried his bowling at Lockwood's end. Daft made a single from him, after which a ball went for four byes and made Nottinghamshire the winners by four wickets. A large body of spectators assembled in front of the pavilion at the finish and cheered lustily for the visitors. There were also calls for some of Surrey's men.

1 August: HAMPSHIRE v SOMERSET (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128135.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 August, page 8)

These counties began a match yesterday on the county ground at Southampton. The visitors went in first, and for the opening partnership Bean and Marlow scored 146 runs in an hour and 35 minutes. Bean made nine fours. Marlow continued batting for an hour longer, and Jesse Hide afterwards threw plenty of vigour into his play.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 August, page 8)

Hampshire were seen to considerable advantage in this match at Southampton yesterday. Going in overnight against the 345 total of the visitors, the home side lost four batsmen for 86. Messrs Bencraft and Lacey made a fine stand for the sixth wicket, adding 153 in two and a half hours. Mr Bencraft, who was caught at third man, contributed five fours, four threes and three twos. Mr Lacey was eventually bowled for an admirable 97, in which were 11 fours and seven threes.

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

After a thoroughly good match Sussex were victorious at Southampton yesterday. The visitors, who had a lead of 49 on the first innings, were batting two hours in their second venture for 180. Bean, before a catch at third man dismissed him, made seven fours, two threes and four twos.

Hampshire were left with 230 to obtain for victory. Mr Forster and Soar scored 46 for the first wicket, and afterwards Barton did well, making six fours, a three and five twos. Sussex, however, won the match at a quarter-past 5 by 54 runs.

1 August: DERBYSHIRE v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128405.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 2 August, page 8)

Essex were seen to considerable advantage at Derby yesterday, and they were batting during the whole of the cricketing hours. Messrs Lucas and Owen played particularly well.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 August, page 8)

This match was continued yesterday at Derby. The visitors, who had done so well on Monday, rapidly completed their innings. Bagshaw met with considerable batting success for Derbyshire.

Day 3 (scorecard but no report from Thursday 4 August, page 5)

4 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3859.html)

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

Before the close of the day at Gloucester yesterday the home county must have regretted that Woof and Murch, the two bowlers, had been left out of the side. Sussex went in first and gave their rivals a whole day's fielding, although runs averaged only 50 an hour, the Gloucestershire fielding being particularly good. Dr W G Grace was again able to play.

Marlow and Bean scored 87 for the first Sussex wicket in an hour and a half, and the latter contributed one six (a square-leg hit out of the ground), four fours, two threes and two twos. Marlow was second out at 150; his 98 occupied three hours and included 13 fours, three threes and seven twos. Mr Heasman batted with great care. Mr Newham ran up 44 in 50 minutes . . .

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

Sussex increased their overnight score from 247 to 482, a total that had been secured at the rate of about 62 runs an hour. Mr Brann's brilliant batting was the feature of the day. He was in three hours and three-quarters for his 147, the last 47 of which were made in half an hour; his contributions embraced a six, 25 fours, ten threes, three twos and five singles. Mr Andrews, who helped Mr Brann to put on 122 in 70 minutes for the eighth wicket, made two sixes, and 11 fours and three twos.

Gloucestershire went in for two and a half hours. Dr Grace showed some of his old form in obtaining 24 of the first 30, but Dr E M Grace was the more successful, making 62 in rather over two hours.

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

Dr W G Grace's brilliant batting characterized the third day's cricket of this match, concluded on Saturday at Gloucester. Of late "WG" has had a very big share of ill-fortune, and a strained knee too has given him much trouble. But on Saturday his play furnished a fine illustration of the great game of the Gloucestershire captain, which in years gone by the most skilled bowlers, both English and Australian, found painfully consistent.

Gloucester, who had lost six wickets overnight for 136, completed their venture in an hour and a quarter for an addition of 64, and a follow-on was necessitated with arrears of 282. Then it was that Dr W G Grace's fine batting delighted an enthusiastic company. Without making an indifferent stroke he scored 99 runs out of 142, and then in driving he skied the ball back to the bowler. The runs were obtained in two and a quarter hours by one six, nine fours, two threes, nine twos and singles. Mr Page had helped his captain to make 45 for the first wicket, and Mr Rice and Dr Grace had put on 68 for the fourth, when the latter was out.

When the fifth wicket went there were 126 runs yet wanted to avert the single innings defeat and an hour and a quarter to play. Messrs Rice and Ferris made an invaluable stand for their side, and all the skill of the Sussex bowlers was ineffective against the two batsmen, who added 86 runs. Mr

Rice during his stay of two and a half hours contributed eight fours, two threes and three twos, while Mr Ferris also obtained eight fours. The game, which had been so much in favour of the batsmen, was thus drawn. The fact that Gloucestershire left out their bowlers Woof and Murch was extremely puzzling.

4 August: KENT v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3860.html)

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

The disappointment caused by the rain on Bank Holiday was in a measure compensated for by the improvement in the weather yesterday. The Ladies' Day is generally regarded as the best of the "Week," and the enthusiasm shown on the present occasion proved that its popularity is by no means on the wane.

The streets of the ancient city had assumed the gay aspect which they usually wear on the occasion of the cricket carnival. Crowds arrived at an early hour in brakes and other vehicles, while the trains from Ramsgate, Margate and other places were well filled. Long before the time appointed for the match to begin a numerous company were wending their way up the Dover road to the St Lawrence ground.

The match itself was well worthy of the attention which it attracted. Nottinghamshire, fresh from their victory at the Oval, were matched against Kent, who had just before defeated Gloucestershire. Mr Robinson, in the absence of Mr Dixon, was captain of the visitors, and the vacant place was taken by T Attewell. Mr M C Kemp kept wicket for Kent, while, as Mr Braybrooke is suffering from a strain, Mr F Marchant was included in the home eleven. The tents formed an almost complete belt round the ground, and during the afternoon there was an exceedingly large company present. The bands of the Buffs and Cavalry Depot played selections at intervals throughout the day.

Play began at ten minutes to 12, while Nottinghamshire, who won the toss, went in. Shrewsbury and Mr A O Jones were first at the wickets. Martin led off from the city end, while W Hearne was the other bowler. The start was not too assuring, as at 16 Mr Jones was run out, the ball being well thrown in by third man. Gunn hit Martin finely to the leg boundary, but before he had an opportunity of getting set a smart catch at wicket disposed of him. Barnes joined Shrewsbury, and each batsman sent the ball to the boundary. Three-quarters of an hour yielded 50 runs. Shrewsbury played W Hearne to square-leg for four, and hit Wright, who relieved him, to the leg boundary. A difficult chance was then given by Shrewsbury to A Hearne in the slips. The latter now superseded Martin. Seven runs came from his first over, and then Shrewsbury drove him well to the on for four. Barnes played a ball of Wright's hard on to his foot, and it went into the wicket, and Flowers was soon afterwards caught at slip. Shacklock opened with on-drives for three and four, and at luncheon the total had reached 94.

The hundred was signalled just before 3 o'clock. Wright and Martin had renewed the attack, and in the former's first over Shacklock made a six, but was soon afterwards bowled. Attewell's stay was short, and Mr Robinson joined Shrewsbury. The run-getting slackened considerably. Wright injured his hand in trying to stop a hard return, and Attewell fielded as substitute, while W Hearne took up the bowling. Shrewsbury twice drove him for four in an over. Wright now reappeared, and A Hearne went on at the other end. The cricket continued to be slow until at length Mr Robinson was bowled.

Daft came in, and Shrewsbury, after making a cut for four, completed his hundred by a leg hit to the boundary at 4.35, having been in three hours and 40 minutes. Daft fell to a catch at slip, and T Attewell was clean bowled, making nine out for 186. Sherwin gave some trouble, and the 200 was

recorded at 4.55, these having been obtained at the rate of 50 an hour. Sherwin batted pretty freely for a while. W Hearne gave place to Wright at 217, a change that soon answered, the Nottinghamshire wicket-keeper being clean bowled. Total, 226; duration of innings, four hours 25 minutes. Beyond the difficult chance given to slip in the early stage of his batting Shrewsbury's innings was an exhibition of sound and steady cricket; it included 17 fours, two threes and seven twos.

Kent started their batting at 20 minutes to 6 with A Hearne and Mr Marchant. The former cut Attewell for four in the first over, but with the total at eight both were dismissed. Messrs Weigall and Knowles, however, batted with much confidence. The former drove Attewell to the off boundary, while Mr Knowles played Shacklock to leg for four and also cut him finely for four. At a quarter-past 6, when stumps were drawn, the record was 27 for two wickets.

During the day 8,096 people paid for admission, and it is estimated that the company numbered 12,000, which exceeds that of any previous year.

During the luncheon interval a jardinière and side pieces of plate were presented by Dr Payne Smith (the Dean of Canterbury) to the ex-Mayor. It was inscribed as follows: -

“Presented to W W Mason, Esq., J.P., in grateful recognition of the dignity and ability with which he discharged his duty as Mayor of Canterbury during the jubilee of the Canterbury cricket week.”

With a view to making to Alec Hearne some substantial acknowledgement of his services to the county, and more particularly of his fine innings of 116 against Gloucestershire, a collection was made amongst the company present. The result was a sum of £65, which so exceeded expectations that it was agreed to give Alec Hearne £50 and to divide the remainder between Martin, Walter Wright and Walter Hearne.

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

A charming day throughout was experienced yesterday on the St Lawrence Ground, where there was again a very large company. At the drawing of stumps the previous evening Notts had completed an innings for 226, and two Kent wickets were lost for 27.

Messrs Weigall and Knowles (8 and 11) continued their batting at 11.35. Shacklock and Attewell undertook the bowling. The former's first over proved disastrous to Mr Weigall, and the same bowler not long afterwards dismissed Messrs Knowles and Wilson. Half the wickets were now down for 44. This sorry outlook improved when Messrs Matt and Fox became partners. The latter drove Shacklock finely to the on for four, a hit which a couple of overs later he repeated. The run-getting now became rather slow for a time, and even a late cut for four from Attewell did not raise the average above the rate of one run every two minutes. Shacklock gave up the ball to Flowers at 75, and six runs later Barnes relieved Attewell. Mr Patterson, who was batting very steadily, then drove the last-named to the off for three, to which his companion responded by sending the ball to the on for the same amount. A brilliant cut off Barnes to the tents by the Kentish captain was deservedly cheered, and a single by the same batsman sent the 100 up at five minutes past 1. Attewell resumed bowling for Flowers, and in his opening over Mr Patterson obstructed his wicket, having batted well for his 35. Six for 103.

Mr Kemp arrived and Shacklock superseded Barnes. With four runs added the change proved effective, Mr Fox driving the ball hard into the hands of mid-off. Martin joined Mr Kemp, who at 114 fell to a smart catch at wicket. When Wright came in to the assistance of Martin, 33 were yet wanted to save the follow on, but nine of them had been obtained when a capital piece of stumping dismissed Martin. Luncheon followed.

During the interval Lady Harris presented Alec Hearne with the cheque for £50, and to Walter Hearne, Martin and Wright the balance of five guineas each, the result of the subscription made in the ground on Thursday.

The batting was resumed at a quarter to 3, W Hearne going in with Wright. Attewell and Shacklock again bowled. From the latter Wright made a remarkably clean cut for four. Every ball was now watched with the keenest interest until the score reached 143, when only two were wanted to prevent the follow on. Mr Patterson, the Kent captain, then went into the field and spoke to Weight, who was to receive the next ball. Whether it was intended that the batsmen should get out and thus afford Kent the opportunity of batting throughout the afternoon pm a good wicket or not is, of course, a question; that was, however, the construction put upon the matter by a great many people. But if such was the contemplated move W Attewell quite checkmated it by sending the ball so wide on the leg side that no batsman could possibly reach it, and there being no fieldsman near enough to stop the ball it went to the boundary. The home team were thus credited with four wides and the follow on was saved. The little incident, to say the least of it, was a somewhat unfortunate one. Wright played on at 20 minutes past 3, the innings realizing 164.

Notts, who had 62 runs in hand, began their second venture at a quarter to 3 with Shrewsbury and Mr Jones. Martin and W Hearne [led] the attack, and only 16 runs had been obtained when Mr Jones fell to a catch at slip. Gunn arrived and the cricket became very slow, ten minutes at one time elapsing without a run being scored. Forty only resulted from 65 minutes' play. Three runs later Shrewsbury was well caught in the slips off Wright, who had just relieved W Hearne. Barnes hit freely and was credited with 23 out of the 30 runs gained during his partnership with Gunn. He was then out leg-before-wicket, while 13 runs later Gunn was caught at wicket. Four for 86.

Daft and Mr Robinson put together 25 runs in half an hour, and then the latter was secured by Martin at extra mid-off, after the ball had been touched by cover-point. Play to-day begins at 11 o'clock and will cease at 6. Nottinghamshire are 173 to the good with five wickets to fall.

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

Although the number of spectators on the St Lawrence Ground on Saturday was, of course, not so large as on the preceding days, yet the prospect of good cricket attracted a fair attendance. In the early morning the weather was delightful, but about noon the sky became overcast, and before Notts completed their second venture a heavy downpour of rain drove every one to shelter. Beyond another slight shower, however, there was no further interruption; the afternoon was bright.

When play ceased on Friday, Notts, who were 52 runs in hand at the close of an innings each, had lost half their wickets in the second attempt for 111. An early start was made on Saturday. At five minutes past 11 Daft (not out 10) proceeded to the wickets with Flowers. W and A Hearne shared the attack. For an addition three, daft was clean bowled. Shacklock, who gave a chance to Wright at third man, drove Alec Hearne to the off for four, but he then lost the company of Flowers. Attewell got in front of his wicket, and his brother made a poor hit to mid-on, where the ball was

held. Nine for 155. Shacklock and Sherwin were now together, but at 12.15 rain stopped the game for three-quarters of an hour. The Notts wicket-keeper then made seven in an over of A Hearne's. A little later, Shacklock fell to an easy catch at slip. Total, 178; time, 1.10. Walter Hearne had an excellent analysis.

Kent had 241 set them to win, and at 25 minutes past 1 A Hearne and Mr Marchant began the task. Attewell and Shacklock were the bowlers. The start was not hopeful, as when only four had been made a catch at slip dismissed A Hearne. Mr Weigall joined Mr Marchant, and the latter hit with the greatest determination, 30 runs being obtained in about 25 minutes. These came chiefly from Shacklock, who then relinquished the ball to Flowers. After luncheon Mr Weigall cut Attewell twice for four, and then rain stopped the game for a short time. Shacklock presently relieved Attewell, who crossed to the other end. In the former's first over Mr Marchant drove him to the on for three, and Mr Weigall cut him to the ring. Eighty runs were recorded at 3.20. A sharp catch at wicket then dismissed Mr Marchant. Two for 81.

Mr Knowles joined Mr Weigall, and the run-getting toned down. A dozen were slowly obtained, and Mr Knowles was bowled off his pad at 93. A couple of runs later Mr Patterson was secured at wicket. Mr Wilson cut Attewell to the boundary, and the 100 was signalled at five minutes to 4. A little more than two hours yet remained for cricket, and 141 were required by Kent for victory. Mr Weigall played with great confidence, so much so that at 132 Barnes went on for Attewell. Mr Wilson drove Shacklock twice to the off-boundary in one over, which left 98 for victory and six wickets in hand. Flowers was now tried, and in his opening over Mr Wilson was given out leg-before; his partnership with Mr Weigall had produced 50 runs. Half the batsmen were now lost for 145.

Mr Fox, although he drove Flowers well to the on for four, was evidently not at home with the bowling, and at 150 Barnes completely beat him. Mr Kemp next assisted Mr Weigall, who was soon out, caught and bowled. He had been batting for two hours and 20 minutes. Seven for 156. The fortunes of Kent were quite on the wane, as with 85 to get they had only three wickets left. Martin came and Mr Kemp should have been caught by Shacklock at mid-off when he had made seven. He profited little by this escape, as, after getting a lucky four, he was caught at cover-point. Eight for 170. The end soon came – Wright was taken by the wicket-keeper and Hearne secured at short-leg. Total, 184; time, 5.45. From the complete score it will be seen that Notts won by 56 runs.

4 August: LEICESTERSHIRE v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/125/125276.html)

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

Five thousand people witnessed the opening day's play in this match yesterday at Leicester. Maurice Read carried off the chief honours with a vigorous 131, made in three and a half hours by 15 fours, eight threes, four twos and singles.

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

There was a large company present yesterday at Leicester on the concluding day of this match. The time was occupied with the double innings of the home side. In the first venture the batsmen could do little with the fine fast bowling of Richardson, who occasionally made the ball break back, and took eight wickets at an average of a little over six runs apiece.

Leicestershire, following on with arrears of 233, did much better for a time, but, after the fifth wicket fell at 146, the other five added only 27 runs. Richardson was less successful with the ball this time, although he claimed three more wickets. From the appended score it will be seen that Surrey won by an innings and 60 runs.

4 August: ESSEX v YORKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/113/113430.html)

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

The Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, was well attended yesterday, when the cricket furnished plenty to interest the spectators. Yorkshire were without Lord Hawke, Mr F S Jackson and Hunter (the wicket-keeper), and the side appeared under the captaincy of Mr Ernest Smith. Messrs A P Lucas and A S Johnston were absentees from the Essex eleven.

Going in first at 12.25, the visitors were batting until late in the day. Mr Smith and Mr Frank both did well; the former got his 20 by four fours, a three and a single. Four wickets fell for 77, and then Peel and Wainwright in 35 minutes added 42. Both were then caught in the slips. The stand of the innings was made by Ulyett and Tunnicliffe, who put on 100 for the seventh wicket in an hour and ten minutes. Tunnicliffe had been badly missed by Carpenter at third man with his figures at 17; he contributed 47, in which were four fours, four threes and five twos. Ulyett left soon afterwards, a good ball from Mr Taberer taking his leg stump; in his 52 were four fours, four threes and six twos. The innings was completed for 255, having extended over three and a half hours. Mead's bowling figures came out very well, notwithstanding Carpenter's miss at third man.

Essex went in for an hour and a quarter. The first 40 minutes yielded 11 runs at a cost of two wickets. Burns during a brief stay considerably improved matters, and was only out to a skilful return catch.

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

The second day of this match at Leyton produced more good batting. Messrs Druce and Owen obtained 63 in the hour they were together. Mr Taberer played very steadily, and Mr Owen, too, was content to play a defensive game, his injured knee still necessitating his having a man to run for him. When he had scored 39 he gave an easy return chance to Mr Smith, and later in the innings he should have been caught at mid-off by Hirst. An appeal was also made against him for handling the ball, which became temporarily wedged between the top of his pad and his knee. The umpire, however, ruled that he had not touched the ball.

Messrs Owen and Taberer were partners for an hour and three-quarters, during which time 107 runs were added. Mr Taberer was sixth to leave at 217, and the four remaining wickets were captured for five more runs. With the score at 210 Mr Owen was secured by the wicket-keeper; his 98 extended over four and a half hours, his hits being one five (a drive), six fours, six threes and nine twos.

Going in with a lead of 33, the Yorkshiremen again met with a large measure of success. Mr Smith and Mr Sellers obtained 76 in 50 minutes for the third wicket, and Wainwright afterwards batted vigorously. Yorkshire at the finish were 244 ahead with five wickets in hand.

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

The last day of this match at Leyton produced further good cricket and, while Yorkshire's success

was pretty substantial, Essex are to be congratulated upon the excellence of the fight made against the powerful northern side. Generally the wicket at the Lyttelton Ground played well, but occasionally the bowlers were much assisted by it. There was no break in the fine weather which had been experienced on the two previous days.

Yorkshire were 244 ahead with half their batsmen in hand at the adjournment on Friday night, but on Saturday morning the remaining wickets added only 37 runs, and the innings was completed by ten minutes past 12. Wainwright's 52 was the result of capital batting.

With 282 necessary for victory Essex entered upon the last innings of the match at half-past 12. The beginning was of a nature unlikely to instil confidence into the home side. Mr Owen, Mr Rowe and Carpenter were out in the course of half an hour for 28 runs. But then followed a good batting display by Burns, who made 42 in 35 minutes, by seven fours, three twos and eight singles, before he was taken at third man through playing a little late at a short-pitched ball from Peel. The fourth partnership had realized 48 runs.

Another stand by Messrs Druce and Hailey followed, but after luncheon the former should have been caught at wicket off Mr Ernest Smith. Both batsmen did well and good hits were plentiful until Peel's crossing over to the lower wicket, when ensued a series of misfortunes for Essex, culminating in defeat. Mr Hailey, after being in an hour and three-quarters, was bowled at 133 – off stump out of the ground. The fifth wicket had yielded 57 runs. The catch in the long-field which got rid of Mr Kortright and the good strokes of Mr Druce were the most interesting of the closing incidents. Mr Druce was last out – caught at slip; he had made 50 in two hours. From the score subjoined it will be seen that Yorkshire won by 106 runs.

The positions of the leading counties are as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
Nottinghamshire	11	9	0	2
Surrey	11	8	2	1
Middlesex	9	5	3	1
Somerset	8	5	3	0
Lancashire	10	4	3	3
Yorkshire	11	4	4	3
Kent	10	2	8	1
Gloucestershire	10	1	7	2
Sussex	11	1	9	1

8 August: LANCASHIRE v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3861.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 9 August, page 12)

In consequence of heavy rain there was no play at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, when the return match between Lancashire and Somerset should have begun. If possible a start will be made to-day at 11 o'clock.

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

Yesterday, at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, the return match between Lancashire and Somerset was begun, and was finished in one day's play. There was no play on Monday because of the heavy rain.

Yesterday the pitch was entirely favourable to the bowlers. Somerset, who went in first, started well with Mr Hewett and Mr Palairet; the former made 35 of 41 before he was caught in the long field. After 60 had been scored for two wickets, the innings collapsed for 88. At one time Lancashire seemed likely to fare worse, but some vigorous play by Yates and Mr Kemble in the end enabled them to lead by 28.

Somerset's second innings lasted under an hour and a half. It was a quarter past 6 when the tenth man left, but as Lancashire wanted only 31 to win it was agreed to extend the time for the drawing of stumps, and eventually the home side [won] by eight wickets.

8 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3862.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 9 August, page 12)

At Trent-bridge, yesterday, the wet weather allowed of little play in the early part of the day. The return match with Middlesex was regarded with some anxiety by the friends of the Midland county. The Middlesex eleven now possess that excellent wicket-keeper, Mr M'Gregor, besides other brilliant cricketers. In consequence of a strain Mr A J Webbe relinquished the captaincy of the visitors to Mr T C O'Brien, who last year took command of them in the later matches.

On a slow wicket and after a long interruption by rain, Nottinghamshire began in a manner that gave promise of a big score. Mr Dixon batted particularly well, while Shrewsbury played very carefully. Only three overs were bowled before luncheon. The first hour after the interval yielded 60 runs, and the record stood at 70 when the home county, whose hits included six fours, two threes and four twos, was taken at third man.

For a time the Middlesex bowlers had the best of matters, and Rawlin quickly got out Shrewsbury and Gunn, three wickets being down for 97. Barnes and Flowers, however, added 40 in as many minutes, and then the home side were steadily got rid of. Rawlin bowled Flowers, Barnes was caught at cover-point and Attewell at wicket, and six men were out for 153. The innings might have ended last evening, but Daft was missed in the slips . . .

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

When the match was resumed at 11.30 yesterday, in dreary uncomfortable weather, the outstanding wicket of Notts was captured without the addition of a run.

Messrs Stoddart and Henery started batting on behalf of the visitors; but the bowling of Attewell was so destructive that five wickets averaged only eight runs apiece. Mr Stoddart, after playing carefully for his 21, was cleverly caught at slip. Messrs Jardine and Ford infused a little vigour into the play. The former, who went in second wicket down, carried out his bat for 32.

In their follow-on Middlesex, after again starting badly, played an uphill game in gallant style. Notts had 109 set them to win.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 11 August, page 9)

The excellent batting form shown by Nottingham this season left small doubt as to their ability to get the 109 set them for victory. Yet few people expected that they would obtain these with such facility as they did. There were about 1,500 visitors to the Trent-bridge Ground yesterday.

Mr Dixon and Daft, who had scored five on the previous evening, were opposed at 11.40 by Hearne and Rawlin. A catch at wicket quickly disposed of Mr Dixon, and Mr Jones arrived. Only 26 runs were gained in 40 minutes, and then Mr Jones was run out. Two for 44. Shrewsbury joined Daft and, although the wicket had improved, runs came very slowly. After the 50 had been reached at 25 minutes to 1, over half an hour was expended in obtaining the next ten runs. The 80 was not

completed until after two and a quarter hours' batting; but the 100 was signalled at five minutes to 2, and Nottinghamshire eventually won by eight wickets.

8 August: SUSSEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3863.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 9 August, page 12)

Mr F S Jackson, the Cambridge captain, was unable to take his place in the Yorkshire eleven yesterday as he is still suffering from an injured hand. Wardall and Mr Sellers were also unable to play. The weather at Brighton was very fine, but the wicket proved troublesome to the batsmen.

Sussex started well and obtained 88 runs within the first hour. At 89 Bean was taken at slip for an excellent 44. In spite of the capital form of Mr Brann, the home side were steadily disposed of, and at luncheon time the score was six wickets down for 127. The other wickets produced an average of 11 runs apiece. Peel bowled remarkably well.

With Lord Hawke, Ulyett and Tunnicliffe out for 40 runs Yorkshire's prospects did not look bright; but from that point the visitors' fortunes underwent rapid improvement. Mr E Smith and Wainwright remained together some time, and in the last hour and a quarter of the day Mr Frank and Peel raised the figures from 106 to 208.

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

Rain at Brighton yesterday caused the continuation of this match to be delayed until five minutes past 3 o'clock, when the weather improved and the afternoon kept bright. On the previous day Sussex had finished an innings for 173, and five of the visitors were out for 208.

Peel and Mr Frank, who had put together 102 during their previous evening's partnership, did little more yesterday. Tate and Guttridge bowled with great effect and were aided by the damaged state of the turf . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 11 August, page 9)

The close of the second day's play in this match left it quite at the mercy of Yorkshire, and the attendance at the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday, was small. Sussex, who had lost seven batsmen in their second innings and were then only 21 ahead, had their three outstanding wickets taken in a quarter of an hour for an addition of 11 runs – total 99.

Lord Hawke and Ulyett went in to get the 33 necessary for victory, and the former, after making a dozen out of 14 runs, was caught at wicket. Tunnicliffe joined Ulyett and the remaining 19 runs were obtained without further loss, the former ending the match with two fours. Thus Yorkshire won by nine wickets. Mr Newham's 40 included four fours and seven twos.

8 August: SURREY v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128123.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 9 August, page 12)

There was no lack of variety in the cricket at Kennington Oval yesterday. On a bowler's wicket, which promised to improve, Derbyshire determined to put their rivals in.

At first these tactics were not productive of any great measure of success. Certainly Mr Read was got out cheaply, but the next few batsmen fared pretty well, and the 100 appeared national half-past 1 with only three men gone. Abel had been third to leave at 80, of which he had scored 48 in an hour and a half. By the time the interval arrived five wickets were down for 139. Subsequently the innings was completed in 35 minutes for the addition of only 17 runs. Porter's bowling figures came out well.

When Derbyshire went in Mr Wright was promptly taken at slip, but the partnership of Bagshaw and Chatterton yielded 59 runs in three-quarters of an hour. With 66 on the board before the second wicket fell Derbyshire seemed to be in for a tolerably good score; but Richardson, who had met with no success from the gasometer end, bowled with great skill from the pavilion side, and at his great pace made the ball break in a wonderful manner. At 66, in the course of two overs, four wickets fell to him. Derbyshire's batting collapsed, and Chatterton remained not out for a careful 28, for which he was in an hour and 40 minutes.

Mr R P Lewis, of Winchester College, was again included in the Surrey team, and acquitted himself well as the wicket-keeper. He stood up to all the bowling, and his fine catch which closed the visitors' innings was among the best incidents of the day.

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

The heavy rain in the early hours of yesterday added to the treacherous state of the ground, already bad on Monday, and the second day of this match produced many bowling triumphs.

When play was resumed at Kennington-oval Surrey went on with their second innings. Maurice Read made many good hits, but his companions steadily succumbed to the bowling of Davidson and Stubbings. Six wickets were down for 99. Maurice Read was eighth out at 120 for 47. Surrey were all dismissed shortly before luncheon, leaving Derbyshire 189 to make for victory.

Chatterton batted freely, and he, with Davidson, added 55 for the third partnership. But when Lockwood was put on (for the first time in the match) he met with such success that the last eight wickets fell to his bowling for only 27. Surrey thus won by 93 runs.

Thursday 11 August, page 9: THE COUNTIES

The positions of the leading counties are now as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
Nottinghamshire	12	10	0	2
Surrey	11	8	2	1
Lancashire	11	5	3	3
Somerset	9	5	4	0
Middlesex	10	5	4	1
Yorkshire	12	5	4	3
Kent	11	2	8	1
Gloucestershire	10	1	7	2
Sussex	12	1	10	1

Thursday 11 August, page 9: TO-DAY'S MATCHES

Matches between Middlesex and Surrey are always characterized by particular keenness, and the return match between these counties, which begins this morning at Lord's, is unlikely in this respect to differ from its predecessors. The receipts from the fixture will be set apart for the benefit of George Burton, whose long career in first-class cricket has been almost wholly spent in the service of Middlesex county, for whom he is qualified by birth.

In 1875, both at Prince's and the Alexandra Palace, he shone well in the Middlesex colts' matches, but it was some time later before he secured a permanent place, and then for about ten years he helped his county regularly. His feats with the ball have been frequently of great merit. Against Surrey, at the Oval in 188, he took all ten wickets in the first innings, while in 1886 his slow bowling for Middlesex against the Australians was very effective. Burton joined the Marylebone Club Ground staff in 1883 . . .

11 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3864.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 August, page 11)

Neither Mr Hornby nor Mr Crosfield was included in the Lancashire eleven which appeared against Gloucestershire yesterday on the College Ground at Clifton. Murch and Roberts again played for the home county. The weather was fine, but the turf was a little difficult.

Lancashire sent in Sugg and Ward at five minutes past 12. The former was credited with the 13 runs regarded when he was clean bowled by Roberts, who soon served Ward, Mr M'Laren and Briggs in the same way. Four wickets were lost for 18 runs, but affairs improved during the partnership of Smith and Baker. However, at 39 the former drove the ball into the hands of mid-off, while Baker, whose 20 was the home side of the side, fell to a catch at point. Beyond Mr Hubback, who made a few good hits, the rest of the team did next to nothing, and at 3.10 the innings closed for 69. Roberts had a capital analysis.

Three of the Gloucestershire wickets, including those of the two Graces, went for 27. Mr Rice batted with every care and saw the rest of his side dismissed. Although the visitors' total was passed at the cost of half the wickets, the others only averaged five runs each. Mr Rice was in an hour and 20 minutes for his 21. Stumps were now drawn.

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

On the Clifton College Ground, yesterday, the Lancastrians quite atoned for their feeble batting of Thursday, when the close of an innings each left them 36 runs in arrear.

Ward and Mr M'Laren entered upon their second venture at 25 minutes to 12. Roberts and Mr Ferris conducted the attack. The score gradually reached 29, when Murch and Dr W G Grace went on. An hour's play having yielded 35 runs, Ward was bowled. Sugg came and Roberts resumed. Twenty runs were added before Mr M'Laren was also bowled. Two for 62. Smith joined Sugg and, in spite of bowling changes, the 100 was reached after two hours and ten minutes' play. At the interval ten had been added.

On its being resumed the game became quiet, and for a time two minutes were expended over each run. The total was advanced to 150 at a quarter to 4. The scoring now became more rapid, and both batsmen were soon credited with 50. When he had obtained 62 Sugg gave a chance to Mr Page in the long field. Among other variations adopted, Dr E M Grace's lobs came in for a trial. These did not prevent the 200 being recorded at half-past 4. Sixteen runs afterwards Sugg was caught at mid-off. His partnership with Smith had lasted two hours and 35 minutes, and 154 runs resulted from it; he himself was batting over three hours for his 89, which included 12 fours, three threes and eight twos.

Neither Briggs nor Baker stayed long – the former returned the ball and the latter played it into slip's hands. Five for 228. Yates appeared and Smith was let off by Captain Luard at cover-point when he had scored 91; but he was soon clean bowled. In his three hours and three-quarters' batting he had obtained nine fours, eight threes and seven twos. Yates was taken at wicket . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 15 August, page 5)

By the close of the second day's play in this match on the Clifton College Ground, Lancashire could certainly claim a decided advantage, as, with three wickets in hand in the second innings, they were 251 runs ahead. Indeed, after the bowling triumphs of Thursday, the visitors, on an improved pitch, monopolized the whole of Friday's cricketing hours.

The prospect of a good Saturday was upset by the heavy rain of the early morning and, although after another shower the weather cleared up, play was impossible until ten minutes past four. Even at this time the turf was very wet. Lancashire at once declared their innings closed and put Gloucestershire in for an hour and three-quarters.

Briggs and Watson shared the early bowling, but the wicket was too wet for them to be particularly effective, and generally the ball cut straight through the turf. However, they managed to get four wickets down – viz., those of Dr E M Grace, Mr Rice, Mr Ferris and Roberts, at a small cost in an hour. Roberts, who went in when the first batsman left, remained for 35 minutes, playing with steadiness, and his patience contributed much towards Gloucestershire's averting the danger of defeat.

At the end of the first hour Dr W G Grace, who had gone in second wicket down, was joined by Mr Radcliffe, and these batsmen showing capital cricket played out time, in spite of various changes in the visitors' attack. Dr Grace's 18 was the result of an hour and a half's batting. Thus the match was left drawn.

11 August: MIDDLESEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3865.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 August, page 11)

There was quite a large company at Lord's yesterday to witness the beginning of the return match between these counties. The proceeds are for George Burton, who has been associated with Middlesex cricket for so many years, and there is every likelihood of his receiving a substantial benefit.

Surrey won the toss, and at ten minutes past 12 Mr W W Read and Abel were opposed by Rawlin and Hearne. The first-named began in a spirited manner, making a dozen by two cuts and an on-drive. Having scored 15 out of 19 he was bowled in playing forward to a ball from Hearne. Lockwood began well, sending Rawlin to square-leg and Hearne to the on for four each. Forty-one runs were registered in an hour, and then Mr Ford relieved Rawlin. Lockwood made a couple of on-drives for four in an over from Hearne, who then gave up the ball to Phillips. A smart catch at cover-point dismissed Lockwood, who seemed to be in capital batting form. Two for 64. Maurice Read joined Abel and, despite changes in the attack, they had advanced the total to 87 prior to luncheon.

Afterwards, Read drove Hearne finely to the on for five, and an off-drive by Abel from Mr Ford sent the total up to 100 a few minutes past 3 o'clock. Only three were added, and Read played on to his wicket. Mr Shuter aided Abel, who again hit the ball to the off boundary. Runs now came at a very tardy pace, for it took half an hour to obtain the next 14 runs. Rawlin then relieved Mr Ford, while at 125 Hearne gave way to Phillips. A remarkably clean drive was made from the former change by Mr Shuter for four; but not long afterwards he was capitally caught at long-field-on. Four for 139. Henderson filled the vacancy. Abel, who had been playing very cautiously, then cut a ball which Mr Jardine fielded; the latter threw it hard at the wicket and it went to the boundary. These four runs sent Abel's score past the 50, after a little over three hours' batting. When he had seven more, however, in about half an hour, he was clean bowled; among his hits were five fours, two threes and seven twos. Half the wickets were now down for 160.

During the partnership of Henderson and Baldwin runs again came slowly, and ironical cheers were occasionally brought forth when a single was made. Yet, in spite of this, the 200 was passed at half-past 5, but then Baldwin was out leg-before. Six for 202. Lockwood began promisingly by driving Mr Stoddart well to the on boundary, and two overs later he repeated this feat; he then added an off-drive from the same bowler for four. Mr Ford was now tried again but, after a little more steady play, Lohmann sent the ball to square-leg, and drove Hearne almost straight to the pavilion rails; for each of these hits four were recorded. Although the bowling was again altered no separation was effected when stumps were drawn.

The cricket had been particularly slow and, until Lohmann and Henderson infused a little life into the play during the last 30 minutes, the run-getting had only averaged about 40 an hour. Throughout the day 6,722 people paid for admission and, including ticket-holders, members &c., there must have been quite 10,000 on the ground.

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

There were again several thousand visitors to Lord's yesterday to witness the continuation of this match. It will be remembered that Surrey were batting during the whole of Thursday, and obtained 255 for six wickets. Henderson and Lohmann (not outs 44 and 42) were, at 11.35, opposed by Rawlin and Hearne.

The third ball of the second over found its way to Lohmann's stumps. His 45 had taken him an hour and three-quarters to get, and included five fours, three threes and four twos. Brockwell assisted Henderson, and made a dozen runs in three hits from Hearne. With the total at 293 Rawlin handed the ball to Mr Ford. This proved to be a move in the right direction, as in his opening over Henderson, who had batted in good style for three hours and a quarter, was caught at mid-off. His principal figures were two fours, five threes and eight twos. Eight for 293. Mr Ford captured the next two wickets after a single had been made from the other bowler – Wood caught at cover-point and Brockwell out leg-before. Total, 294. Duration of innings, 6h 10min.

Middlesex started in a most disheartening way, as Lohmann clean bowled Mr Webbe with the first ball of the innings. Mr Stoddart was joined by Mr Scott, who drove Lockwood well to the off for four. This bowler's deliveries were then most disastrous to the home eleven. He induced Mr Stoddart to drive a ball and then ran nearly to mid-off and took it with his left hand. Messrs Jardine and O'Brien were both dismissed by him scoreless – the former clean bowled and the latter secured at wicket. Four for 16. Mr Scott next had Mr Henery for a partner. This batsman hit with the greatest determination and received unstinted applause. He made 19 by two drives and three cuts in a couple of overs from Lockwood, and also hit Lohmann to the boundary. The former, however, then clean bowled him. Half the wickets were now lost for 47, a sorry outlook against a score of nearly 300.

Rawlin appeared, and runs were obtained pretty freely. When 63 had been recorded, Rawlin started for a doubtful run, and before he could get back Richardson had returned the ball so well that the wicket was put down. Mr Ford next assisted Mr Scott, and at 65 Richardson relieved Lohmann. In the second over of the change Mr Ford scored a dozen runs by a square-leg hit and two drives. At luncheon the total was 83 for six wickets.

On resuming, Lockwood and Lohmann again took charge of the bowling. Mr Scott made a couple of fours in the latter's first over, but in the second Mr Ford was got rid of through a well-judged catch at long field-off. Phillips was soon bowled, the seventh and eighth wickets falling at 92. Mr M'Gregor joined Mr Scott, who drove Lohmann finely to the pavilion rails. The new-comer was clean bowled, and when the last man, J T Hearne, arrived there was yet a single wanted to complete the hundred. Mr Scott passed this number by driving Lockwood to the off, to which Hearne responded with a couple of fours – an on-drive and a square-leg hit. Almost immediately after this Hearne was bowled, the innings, which had lasted nearly two hours, realizing 112. Mr Scott, who had gone in first wicket down, carried out his bat for 49, in which were seven fours, one three and five twos.

With the formidable arrears of 182 Middlesex entered on their second venture at 3.45. Lohmann bowled from the pavilion end, and from his first ball Mr Webbe was caught at wicket. To be dismissed in each innings in such a summary manner is hard fortune for any batsman, especially to so keen a cricketer as Mr Webbe. Messrs Scott and Stoddart soon improved matters; the latter scored five times as fast as his companion. At 35, which had been reached in an hour, Mr Scott was easily secured by mid-off. Two down. Further severe losses were then suffered by the home county in the dismissal of Mr Stoddart and Mr Henery, who were both clean bowled in the same over from Lockwood. Four for 38.

Mr Jardine assisted Mr O'Brien, and the latter inspired some confidence by obtaining 11 in an over of Lockwood's. Mr Jardine made a remarkably fine drive for four, but then had the misfortune to be run out, though it was a very close affair. Half the wickets were now down for 64. Rawlin came, and at 81 Richardson superseded Lockwood. Mr O'Brien obtained a dozen in a couple of overs from the fresh bowler. He then lost Rawlin, who cut the ball into point's hands. Six for 98. The home side yet required 84 to save the innings defeat when Mr Ford joined Mr O'Brien, who drove Richardson for four. At 113 Abel relieved Lohmann, and by a leg hit for two Mr O'Brien completed his 50 at 5.25. When both batsmen seemed well set, a fine ball from Richardson shot into Mr Ford's wicket. Seven for 119.

Phillips appeared, and Lockwood went on for Abel at the pavilion end. Richardson was very severely treated by Mr O'Brien, and Lohmann was tried at the nursery wicket. In his first over he bowled Mr O'Brien, who had been the life of the innings; among his hits were seven fours, three threes and six twos. Eight for 138. Mr M'Gregor joined Phillips, who was thrown out by Richardson in starting for a very doubtful run. Nine for 149. Hearne aided Mr M'Gregor. The latter hit freely, and both batsmen were loudly cheered as they neared the 182 required to save the innings defeat. They got the total to 180, and then Mr M'Gregor was bowled. Thus Surrey won by an innings and two runs.

The feeble resistance offered to the Surrey attack is inexplicable, and for so strong a batting team as Middlesex possess to be twice dismissed in four hours and a half will rank as one of the novelties of the season. There were again about 10,000 present, so that Burton receives a good benefit, which, however, would have been greatly enhanced had Middlesex played up to their true form and thus caused the match to extend into the Saturday.

11 August: YORKSHIRE v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3866.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 August, page 11)

On the Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, yesterday, Somerset began their first match this season against Yorkshire. The visitors, winning the toss, sent in Messrs Hewett and Palairet. Peel and Mr Smith bowled.

Mr Hewett was bowled in the first over, and when a dozen runs had been made Mr Palairet was caught. Mr Hedley made a stand and was the only one who scored double figures. Five wickets fell for 55, and the innings was then rapidly finished off, the remaining batsmen being disposed of for 19 runs, making the total 75. The innings lasted an hour and a half.

Yorkshire started badly, Ulyett and Lord Hawke being both dismissed without scoring. Messrs Smith and Jackson, however, did better. Twenty-six were made in eight hits before Mr Smith was caught. At 54 Mr Jackson was dismissed. Somerset's total was reached with only six wickets down, and when nine were lost for 110 the innings, in the absence of Wardall, closed.

Somerset, who were 36 behind, went in a second time and completely altered the opinions formed of them earlier in the day. After Mr Hewett had been caught at cover point Messrs Palairet and Challen played brilliantly and stayed in until stumps were drawn.

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

Another fine day drew only a moderate company to Bramall-lane, Sheffield, yesterday to witness the play between these counties. The end of an innings each left the visitors 36 behind, but on their going in a second time on Thursday evening they obtained 84 at the cost of a wicket only.

At 11.35 Messrs Challen and Palairet (not-outs with 24 and 32) faced the attacks of Peel and Mr Jackson. When only seven runs had been scored Mr Palairet was clean bowled, 72 having been put on since the fall of the first wicket. Mr Hedley arrived, but at 116 a catch at point dismissed him. For an addition of four Mr Challen (who had batted well) was secured at the wicket, while at 130 Wainwright threw out Nichols from slip. Five down. Messrs Woods and Roe made an excellent stand. Although the bowling was thrice altered the "200" was signalled at ten minutes past 1. The luncheon interval having been taken the last wicket fell at 248.

Yorkshire had now 213 set them for victory, and at five minutes past 3 Lord Hawke and Wardall entered on this task. Messrs Woods and Hedley were the bowlers. In the second over Wardall's middle stump was upset, and Mr Smith came. The scoring was pretty past, as 32 were obtained in 20 minutes. Lord Hawke was then secured by the wicket-keeper. Mr Jackson filled the vacancy. After an hour and a half's batting the "100" went up, and only a single was added when Peel was secured by slip. Moorhouse and Brown put on 24 before the latter was taken at wicket, and quickly afterwards the former hit the ball to mid-on, where it was held, the innings closing a few minutes after 5 o'clock for 125. Somerset thus won by 87 runs. This gives the western county six victories out of ten matches played.

11 August: HAMPSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128413.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 August, page 11)

These counties began a match yesterday on the Hampshire Ground at Southampton. The home side, going in first, did well for a time; but the last few batsmen went at a small cost . . .

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

After an excellent match Hampshire were beaten last evening at Southampton by three wickets. At the close of an innings each Derbyshire held a lead of 58, but going in a second time they had to fight hard to make the 130 necessary for success.

The positions of the leading counties are now as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
Notts	12	10	0	2
Surrey	12	9	2	1
Somerset	10	6	4	0
Lancashire	12	5	3	4
Middlesex	11	5	5	1
Yorkshire	13	5	5	3
Kent	11	2	8	1
Gloucestershire	11	1	7	3
Sussex	12	1	10	1

15 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3867.html)

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

Heavy scoring characterized the first delivery of the festival at Cheltenham. The weather was rather wild, yet there was a numerous company of onlookers present. Mr Robinson was unable to play for the visitors, and Arthur Shrewsbury, jun., nephew of the great batsman, was included in the eleven. Dr W G Grace captained the home team, in which Woof played in place of Murch.

Nottinghamshire were fortunate enough to win the toss, and at ten minutes past 12 Shrewsbury and Mr Dixon took possession of a capital wicket. Mr Ferris and Roberts conducted the attack. In the latter's first over the amateur was bowled. The arrival of Gunn was warmly greeted. He and Shrewsbury settled down to some steady batting. An hour's play yielded 40 runs. Board's ill-fortune in the matter of injuries did not forsake him, as a ball from Roberts got up very fast and struck him over the left eye. He was so severely hurt that he had to retire, and Mr Croome for a time kept wicket. Although changes in the attack were tried, Shrewsbury and Gunn had taken the score to 85 at luncheon.

On resuming the "100" was telegraphed after a little under two hours' play. Both batsmen continued to hit with confidence. After he had made 57, Gunn should have been secured at slip by Painter off Mr Ferris. In spite of alterations in the bowling it was not until 172 were recorded that the partnership, which had produced 166 runs, was severed by Gunn's being caught by the wicket-keeper standing back; his chief contributions were ten fours, three threes and five twos.

Barnes joined Shrewsbury, who completed his hundred when the score stood at 190. After he had made 37, Barnes was missed in the long field by a substitute off Dr E M Grace's lobs, and when he had added 22 he gave a further chance in the same place off Dr W G Grace. With the next ball, however, the Gloucester captain bowled Shrewsbury; this batsman had been at the wickets four and a half hours for his 127, which comprised 15 fours, five threes, 14 twos &c. This makes Shrewsbury's fifth "century," the previous four being made as follows:- Against Middlesex at Lord's; for the Players against the Gentlemen, at the Oval; for his county against Yorkshire, at Trent-bridge; and against Kent during the Canterbury Week.

At 272, Barnes was caught at point; among his hits were nine fours, three threes and five twos. Flowers and Shacklock kept their wickets intact until stumps were drawn . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 August, page 5)

It will be remembered that on the opening day of this "Week" Nottinghamshire had put together 287 runs at the cost of four wickets only. Yesterday rain delayed the continuance of the game until 25 minutes to 2. Shacklock and Flowers (not outs 9 and 6) were opposed by Dr W G Grace and Roberts.

The third ball from the Gloucestershire captain found its way to Shacklock's stumps, and Flowers, who had been let off in the long-field, was caught at slip. These two wickets had been secured when only ten runs had been added to the overnight total. Attewell and Daft were next together. The 300 was signalled as the result of four and three-quarter hours' batting, and to this number ten

were added before luncheon.

Subsequently Dr W G Grace and Mr Ferris bowled, but the batting was good, so that at 342 Roberts was tried for Mr Ferris. The 350 was recorded at a quarter-past 3, soon after which Mr Croome received the ball from Roberts, and at 374 caused Daft to be caught by the wicket-keeper. It may be noted that Board was sufficiently recovered from his injury of Monday as to be able to resume his place. Mr Jones aided Attewell, who had an escape at the hands of Painter. The former was then caught at slip, and Shrewsbury, jun., arrived. A hard return chance was given to Mr Ferris by Attewell, but it was not taken, and the 400 was hoisted at five minutes to 4. Woof now resumed, and a dozen runs later he bowled Attewell. Sherwin, who brought up the rear, ran himself out at ten minutes past 4. Total, 429; duration of innings, 6h 20min.

Gloucestershire began the batting with Dr E M Grace and Mr Rice. The bowling was opened by Attewell and Shacklock. The latter's first over proved most destructive. Dr E M Grace played under the second ball and Mr Jones at slip held it, while from the fifth Mr Radcliffe was out to the same fieldsman. Two wickets were thus lost and not a run scored.

Painter and Mr Rice batted with the utmost caution. In 25 minutes only ten runs were recorded. A little more freedom was then shown by Painter. At 33 Attewell gave way to Flowers, who in turn handed the ball to Barnes at 48. Fifty runs were obtained in a little over an hour, but for the addition of a single only Mr Rice was taken at wicket and Painter cut the ball into point's hands. Four down. Dr W G Grace and Roberts stayed there until stumps were drawn. Gloucestershire have 298 runs to get and six wickets to fall to save the follow on.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 August, page 5)

On the college ground at Cheltenham yesterday Gloucestershire were batting during the whole of cricketing hours, and in a most creditable manner saved themselves from defeat. The beautiful weather brought a large number of visitors. When stumps were drawn on the second day the home side had gone in against the heavy score of 429 obtained by their opponents, and had lost four wickets for 52.

At half-past 11 Dr W G Grace and Roberts (not outs, 1 and 0) faced the bowling of Attewell and Shacklock. Eight overs were sent down in a quarter of an hour for three runs, when the Gloucestershire captain, who had not added to his single, fell to a catch at slip. Mr Ferris joined Roberts and both batted well. At 83 Barnes went on for Shacklock, but gave way to the younger Shrewsbury at 94. Shacklock crossed over and relieved Attewell, which change proved very effective, for, after half an hour's play, he clean bowled Roberts, who, with Mr Ferris, had put on 41.

Captain Luard came, and Attewell superseded Shrewsbury. To 100 was telegraphed after two and three-quarter hours' batting. Fourteen runs later Captain Luard was well caught at slip by Mr Dixon, who also secured Mr Ferris. For an addition of half-a-dozen Mr Croome fell to a catch by the wicket-keeper. Nine down. After Board had been badly missed by young Shrewsbury, he and Woof put on 26 for the last wicket, a catch at slip finally dismissing the former. Total, 146. As it was now a quarter to 2 the luncheon interval was taken.

Gloucestershire afterwards followed on with a heavy deficiency of 283. Mr Radcliffe and Dr E M Grace were the first to meet the attacks of Shacklock and Attewell. The score was quickly taken to

37, when the latter relinquished the ball to Flowers, in whose first over Dr E M Grace was caught at cover-point. Roberts came, and the 50 was posted after 40 minutes' play. Barnes superseded Shacklock, but it was left to Flowers to bring about a separation, which he did by getting Mr Radcliffe caught at slip. Mr Rice was soon bowled and Roberts taken by point. Four for 64.

Dr W G Grace and Painter then became partners. The latter drove Barnes for four and five in an over. His companion batted very carefully. At 97 Attewell and Mr Dixon had charge of the bowling. The 100 was recorded after 95 minutes' play. Painter was nearly caught at wicket and at mid-off, though they were not distinct chances. He hit hard and got his 50 in three-quarters of an hour. At 119 Mr Jones went on. Dr W G Grace played cautiously, as may be gathered from the fact that he was 45 minutes getting ten runs. Eventually, with the total at 147, Painter was caught at wicket; his 70 had been obtained at the rate of one run a minute. Mr Ferris joined Dr W G Grace and, in spite of bowling changes, 49 runs were put on by them, and they were unconquered at the close of the day. Thus the match was left drawn.

15 August: MIDDLESEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3868.html)

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

Both these counties may be said to have been companions in misfortune of late. They possess strong batting teams, yet neither of these have been able to show their abilities in their true light. Middlesex yesterday played a representative team, but Kent have several of the best men absent. This meeting at Lord's is the return to a match at Blackheath, when Middlesex won by 178 runs. Beyond a couple of showers towards the end of the day, the weather held fine, and during the afternoon many thousand spectators were present.

The home county was successful in the toss, and at ten minutes past 12 Messrs Stoddart and Webbe faced the bowling of Martin and Wright. The Middlesex captain made a dozen by two cuts and an off-drive, while Mr Stoddart also hit freely. At 29 W Hearne relieved Wright. The last-named batsman made two leg-hits for four from the change, while a cut by Mr Webbe to the boundary brought the total to 50 after three-quarters of an hour's play. Each batsman made another four from Martin, who at 70 gave up the ball to A Hearne. Mr Stoddart, having driven W Hearne to the on for four, hit a long hop from the same bowler to the square-leg boundary, which completed his 50 at half-past 1. Wright resumed bowling at the pavilion end. This alteration brought about the dismissal of Mr Webbe, who was finely caught at wicket. One for 88, gained in an hour and a half.

Mr Scott joined Mr Stoddart, and both batsmen played steadily. The latter made five by a couple of leg-hits, but it took 20 minutes to obtain the dozen runs necessary to complete the 100. After the luncheon interval Wright and A Hearne bowled. Mr Scott cut the former capitally for four, after which the scoring again became slow, until Mr Stoddart sent A Hearne to the ring. Half an hour's batting only yielded 18 runs, and the play for a while was rather spiritless. Mr Scott again cut A Hearne for four, and then a double change in the attack was tried – Wright gave way to George Hearne and A Hearne was relieved by W Hearne, who very soon clean bowled Mr Scott. Two for 139. Mr O'Brien quickly lost the company of Mr Stoddart, whose wicket was upset when he was within a dozen runs of his century. Three for 145.

Messrs O'Brien and Nepean were now together. Seven runs came from two on-drives off G Hearne by the former; but a couple of overs later he was clean bowled, and Mr Nepean immediately afterwards was dismissed by a splendid ball which just trimmed the bails off. Half the wickets for 160. Mr Jardine, who was joined by Mr Henery, made a late cut for four, but he also was clean bowled by W Hearne, the last four wickets having fallen for 28 runs. Mr Henery did most of the batting during his partnership with Rawlin, making an especially fine drive off W Hearne. The bowling was again changed, Martin and Wright going on. A drive by Mr Henery to the pavilion rails from Wright caused the 200 to be completed at 5 o'clock. To this number the same batsman added six by a couple of drives in the same over. At 213, however, Mr Henery was caught at point, 46 runs having been put on since the fall of the previous wicket. Mr Ford had not long arrived when Rawlin was missed at extra mid-off by George Hearne. This fieldsman made some reparation for his mistake by catching Mr Ford. Rawlin and Mr M'Gregor added ten, when at 5.25 a heavy shower caused a retreat to the pavilion.

Only ten minutes' delay occurred, and soon after play had been resumed Mr M'Gregor should have been taken at mid-on by W Hearne. The batsman turned this indulgence to account by twice driving Wright for three. W Hearne having relieved Martin, the 250 was reached at five minutes to

6, Rawlin cutting the new bowler for four, a hit which he soon afterwards repeated. Mr M'Gregor added a drive to the on boundary, and George Hearne was tried instead of Wright at 272. In his second over a smart piece of stumping dismissed Rawlin, who had batted well for his 35, no fewer than 59 having been added for the wicket. J T Hearne, the last man, aided Mr M'Gregor within ten minutes of time, and sent successive balls from George Hearne to square leg for four each. Mr M'Gregor was then bowled. Total, 287.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 August, page 5)

The early promise of yesterday morning, with its bright sunshine, was not realized as the time for play at Lord's approached. Yet there was a fairly numerous company of enthusiasts, although the rain, which began about 10 o'clock, did not cease until 12.30.

Ten minutes after this the Middlesex team entered the field. Alec Hearne and Mr Stewart took up their stations at the wickets. J T Hearne bowled from the pavilion end, and in his first over Alec drove him to the on for three, while Mr Stewart cut him in the second for the same number. After five minutes' batting rain fell so fast that the game was stopped until half-past 1. Mr Stewart then cut J T Hearne to the boundary, but in the eighth over Alec Hearne played on. One for 15. Mr Weigall came, and Mr Stewart looked like making a long stay. He scored eight in an over of Rawlin's, but then, in attempting a fourth run, he ran himself out. Two for 30. Mr Patterson started by cutting Rawlin for four, but lost Mr Weigall, who also played on. Three for 35.

Mr Fox accompanied Mr Patterson to the wickets after the interval, and obtained four by a lucky snick from J T Hearne, but then he made a very poor hit, skying the ball into the hands of third man. Patterson and Solbé were now opposed by Rawlin and J T Hearne. Runs came very slowly for about ten minutes, then Mr Solbé was clean bowled. Half the wickets were now down for 43. George Hearne came in next, and the 50 was reached at 25 minutes past 3. With the total at 73 the first change was tried, Rawlin handing the ball to Mr Nepean, and Mr Stoddart being tried at the pavilion end instead of J T Hearne. The latter at 91 went on at the nursery wicket. The 100 was telegraphed at half-past 4, after two hours and a quarter's play. Other changes in the attack were soon adopted, Mr Ford and Rawlin taking charge of it. The Kentish captain cut the former in a very clean manner for four, and completed his 50 with three by a similar hit from the same bowler. The scoring of George Hearne at this time was very meagre, as he was more than half an hour getting four. At 132 J T Hearne superseded Rawlin and caused Mr Patterson to be caught in the slips. He had been batting for two hours and 35 minutes. Six for 144.

Mr Kemp soon ran himself out, and Wright joined George Hearne. These batsmen were some time adding ten runs, and then Mr Nepean superseded Mr Ford. The play again became very tedious. Wright at length made four by driving Mr Nepean to the off, and scored three with a similar hit from Hearne. Rawlin resumed at the nursery end at 175. George Hearne, who had been batting two hours for his last 19 runs, had reached 49 at 6 o'clock, but did not get the single necessary to complete his 50 during the last half-hour. After a very tame day's cricket, the visitors, with three wickets to fall, still required 20 runs to avert the follow on.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 August, page 5)

At one time at Lord's on Tuesday an easy victory seemed to be in store for Middlesex, as they made 287 for an innings, while Kent had lost five wickets for 43. The steady batting of George Hearne

and the free hitting of Mr Patterson yielded 101 during their partnership, and at the close of the day Kent, with three wickets to fall, wanted 20 runs to save a follow on.

Yesterday, at 20 minutes to 12, George Hearne and Wright (not outs, 49 and 27) were opposed by Rawlin and J T Hearne. Nine maiden overs were sent down in succession, and then G Hearne obtained the single required to complete his 50. The 200 was reached at 12.20, and the first hour's play produced 28 runs. Wright reached his 50 at five minutes to 1, and then George Hearne was clean bowled by Mr Nepean, after having been in four hours and a half for his 62, in which were five fours, five threes and five twos. Eight for 225. Martin joined Wright, who 15 runs later was bowled; his chief figures were four fours, four threes and nine twos. This batsman had given a chance to Mr Webbe at mid-off the previous evening. Walter Hearne joined Martin, who batted well. At 265 the former fell to a catch at mid-on, the innings closing at half-past 1.

Middlesex had ten minutes' batting before luncheon, during which Messrs Webbe and Stoddart scored four. The Middlesex captain had one of his fingers cut open by a ball from Wright, and on resuming Mr Scott went in with Mr Stoddart. The former drove Wright finely to the on for four, but was bowled by him at 26. Mr O'Brien came, and at 3.35 the 50 was reached. Seven runs later Martin relieved W Hearne, and at 60 he got Mr Stoddart out leg before. Mr Henery made an off hit to the ring and a late cut for three from an over of Martin's, but he then played on. Three for 75. Mr Ford assisted Mr O'Brien, who obtained two fours in an over from Martin by a cut and on-drive. Soon afterwards the last comer drove him to the furthest boundary, but in his next Mr Ford was bowled. Mr Nepean came, and the 100 was reached at 4.25. Eight runs later Mr O'Brien was stumped, after batting one hour and 20 minutes for his 35. Five for 108. Mr Nepean and J T Hearne were now together, and at 4.55, with the total at 116, Middlesex declared their innings closed.

When Kent began their second innings only an hour and a quarter remained for batting. Mr Stewart and Alec Hearne were opposed by J T Hearne and Mr Nepean. Both started carefully, and when a dozen runs had been registered J T Hearne crossed to the pavilion end and bowled his namesake. One down. Rawlin went on for a couple of overs from the nursery wicket, and then gave up the ball to Mr Nepean. Mr Weigall, who had come in, twice cut the last-named player to the boundary from successive balls. Mr Stoddart then went on for Hearne. When 26 had been obtained Mr Stewart ran himself out, and George Hearne followed. Several bowling changes were tried, but Mr Weigall and G Hearne kept up their wickets, and the match was drawn . . .

15 August: SOMERSET v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3869.html)

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

Addition interest was lent to this return match, which began yesterday at Taunton, from the fact that last year, on the same ground, the western shire inflicted a heavy defeat by 130 runs on the champion county. The home side were fully representative on the present occasion, while Surrey played the eleven that did so well against Middlesex last week, Mr Key once more standing out.

In fine weather and on a fast wicket the visitors, who were fortunate in winning the toss, started batting at five minutes past 12 with Abel and Mr Read. The bowling was undertaken by Mr Woods and Tyler. At the outset the play was steady, but the pace of the run-getting became more rapid after about ten minutes, and 38 were got in the first half-hour. Mr Hedley relieved Mr Woods, but this did not prevent to 50 from being reached at ten minutes to 1. Nichols relieved Tyler and Mr Woods went on again at 71. The latter failed to accept a hard return from Mr W W Read, who had then made 43. Tyler superseded this bowler, an alteration which succeeded, as at 94 he bowled Abel, and five runs later Mr Read sent him back a ball which he held with his right hand at the second attempt. This partnership had lasted an hour and a half. Lockwood and Maurice Read kept in until luncheon, when the total stood at 139.

On resuming both batsmen went in for hard hitting, and 22 runs were put on in three overs. Maurice Read fell to a fine left-handed catch at slip at 152, and a single later Lockwood, who was credited with 45 out of 49 runs scored in half an hour, was bowled. Four for 153. Mr Shuter skied the ball to third man and Lohmann got in front of his wicket, these batsmen being dismissed at 167. Baldwin was soon bowled, and Henderson, who had gone in fourth wicket down, was now joined by Brockwell. Both batted well, and the 200 was signalled at 4 o'clock. Various bowling changes were tried, and when Mr Woods resumed he got Brockwell caught at mid-off. Eight for 226. Wood was caught at cover-point, and then Richardson helped to add 25 before he was bowled. Henderson, whose 37 was the result of an hour and a half's patient play, carried out his bat. Total, 253.

At 5 o'clock Messrs Hewett and Challen started the Somerset batting. Lockwood and Lohmann were the bowlers. So vigorously did Mr Hewett hit that 25 came in a quarter of an hour. Then Mr Challen was bowled and Mr Palairet arrived. Mr Hewett still hit hard, and at 60 Abel was tried. At the end of three-quarters of an hour's play 69 runs were recorded, 51 of these made by Mr Hewett. At length the batsman (when he had put together 61 out of 81 made in 50 minutes) was bowled. Mr Palairet, who made two fours and a drive out of the ground for six, played out time with Mr Hedley.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 August, page 5)

Rain fell heavily yesterday morning at Taunton, and although it cleared soon after noon it was wisely decided to take luncheon earlier than usual. A start was made at 20 minutes past 2, and it soon became evident that the downpour, followed by a hot sun, had had its effect upon the wicket, which had played so well on the previous day. At the close of the game on Monday evening Surrey were all out for 253, and a couple of the Somerset wickets had been lost for 97.

Messrs Palairet and Hedley (28 and 0) continued their batting to the attacks of Lohmann and

Lockwood. In ten minutes the "100" was reached, but three runs later Mr Hedley fell to a catch at slip. Mr Roe played the ball into the hands of mid-on without having scored. Mr Palairet, who had driven Lockwood for four and cut him for three, was then assisted by Mr Hill. Richardson displaced Lockwood, and the last-comer made a drive for four off the change. Directly afterwards Mr Hill gave a sharp chance to Abel at slip, and when 20 had resulted from the partnership he was taken in the long-field. Five for 133. Mr Woods joined Mr Palairet, who continued to bat well. At 146, the former was secured at cover-point, while seven runs later Mr Newton, after being thrice hit by bumping balls from Richardson, was dismissed in precisely the same manner. Nichols was caught at wicket without having added to the score, and eight batsmen were thus disposed of for 153.

Twenty-one runs were required to save the follow-on when Mr Robinson joined Mr Palairet. Every ball was watched with keen interest. At 165 Mr Robinson got in front of his wicket, and when Tyler, the last man, arrived to the aid of Mr Palairet, nine runs were still wanted. Great excitement prevailed. Mr Palairet made a single, which was increased to four by an overthrow, and a single by Tyler and a square-leg hit by his companion followed. As though satisfied with having now saved the follow-on, Mr Palairet was immediately caught at long-off without the addition of even a single. He was most deservedly cheered; his 79 had taken him two hours and three-quarters to obtain. It may be mentioned that his innings sent the Oxford captain's gross number of runs for the season beyond the thousand.

Surrey, with 79 in hand, began their second venture with Abel and Baldwin. Mr Woods and Tyler shared the early bowling. Twenty runs were obtained in a quarter of an hour, and Tyler handed the ball to Mr Hedley. The separation came at the other end, for at 25 Mr Woods clean-bowled Abel. Lockwood came and went in for hard hitting, 23 runs resulting from ten minutes' play. This batsman then skied the ball to extra mid-off, where it was held. Henderson appeared and Nichols relieved Mr Woods. Only half-a-dozen runs were added and Baldwin was then caught at wicket. Three for 54.

Maurice Read joined Henderson. Runs were obtained steadily, so that at 77 Tyler resumed bowling for Mr Hedley. This proved a wise change, as at 80 Maurice Read was caught at cover-point. His place was taken by his namesake, Mr W W Read, who, when only ten had been put on, succumbed to a fine running catch by Mr Palairet. Wood assisted Henderson, and these two played out time. Surrey are now 180 runs on and have yet five wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 August, page 5)

Although the chances were strongly in favour of Surrey at the end of the second day's play in this match at Taunton, the home county's tried ability in an uphill game caused many of their friends to hope that they would yet be successful. Somerset, who saved the follow-on by a single only, had then taken five of Surrey's wickets in their second innings for 101.

In delightful weather yesterday Henderson and Wood (not outs 29 and 5) continued the visitors' batting. Tyler and Mr Woods took charge of the attack. After having had narrow escapes at point and in the long field Wood batted pretty freely. When 15 had been added, however, he lost the company of Henderson, who returned the ball. Lohmann made a hit on the leg side, after which he was caught at long-on. Mr Shuter appeared and Wood made four through the slips and seven (four from an overthrow). With the score at 139 his useful though fortunate innings was closed by a good piece of stumping. The Surrey captain fell to a catch at long-off five runs subsequently, and

Richardson and Brockwell became associated. Mr Woods gave up the ball to Nichols. Each batsman made a hit for four, and at 156 a brilliant catch by the wicket-keeper dismissed Brockwell. This closed the innings at 10 minutes past 12.

Somerset now wanted 236 to win, and at 25 minutes to 1 Messrs Hewett and Palairet went in to start getting them. The wicket, which it was said had been mown by mistake, played very badly, and greatly assisted Lohmann and Lockwood, who were intrusted with the bowling. In the former's first over Mr Palairet was caught at wicket. Mr Challen made an on-drive for four, but then ran himself out. Mr Hedley joined Mr Hewett, who obtained four runs from each end. The former at 16 was caught at extra mid-off, and Mr Roe, who took his place, sent the ball back to the bowler at 21, while a single later Mr Hewett was caught at point. Half the wickets lost for 22 was indeed a forlorn outlook for the home county.

Further disasters, however, fell fast upon them, for at 23 Mr Hill was caught at slip, Mr Woods easily skied the ball to the bowler and Nichols was secured by the wicket-keeper standing back. Eight down. Messrs Newton and Robinson kept together for a little time. In an over of Lohmann's, the latter sent the ball twice to square-leg for four and made a drive for two. At 40, however, he made a lofty hit to mid-on, where the ball was secured, and Tyler was soon bowled. Total 49. The innings had only lasted an hour.

This downfall of Somerset was most unexpected and quite took the players themselves and the public by surprise. As will be seen, the bowling of Lockwood and Lohmann analyzes well. Surrey thus quite atoned for last year's reverse at Taunton by securing a victory of 186 runs.

15 August: SUSSEX v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3870.html)

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

Another long day's fielding was experienced by Sussex at Brighton yesterday, when Lancashire, getting in first on a wicket thoroughly characteristic of the Hove Ground, were batting the whole time without completing an innings.

The friends of the home county must have been well pleased at the outset when they saw A Ward taken at slip and Sugg bowled by a yorker, these two players going for 20 runs. But during the next three hours the Lancastrian batting, in the hands of Mr M'Laren and Smith, triumphed. All sorts of bowling tactics were tried, but the fieldsmen did not avail themselves of two chances offered. Smith, when he had made 56, was missed by Mr Andrews at short-leg, and he also had an escape at the hands of the wicket-keeper. In the first hour 50 runs were scored, and at luncheon the total had advanced to 107 without further mishap.

Subsequently, although the home side tried all the changes of bowling at their disposal, the score advanced rapidly. Mr M'Laren, after completing his "100," gave a sharp chance in the slips, but at 228 his partnership with Smith was broken by a catch at point. Over 200 runs had been obtained in three hours and a quarter by these batsmen. Mr M'Laren had played excellently from the start, and his 132 was faultless until he had passed the 100. His chief hits were 20 fours, three threes and ten twos. This gentleman, in his first match for Lancashire against Sussex, on the same ground, in 189, scored 108.

Humphreys, who went on at the Marine end, now proved successful. He bowled Baker at 262 and Mr Crosfield 20 runs later. Smith was eventually stumped, being the sixth to leave, at 299. He was batting four hours and a half for his 111, in which were nine fours, five threes and ten twos. The next three wickets were captured for 28 runs. It may be noted that Briggs, through indisposition, was absent from the Lancashire team . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 August, page 5)

In spite of the skill of the Lancashire bowlers a far better display was doubtless expected from the Sussex batsmen than that they gave yesterday on the Hove Ground, at Brighton. The visitors scored heavily on the first day, and with yet a wicket in hand they had obtained 327. Mold and Watson, the not-outs, gave further trouble and added 29 more runs before they were separated, and it was 12 o'clock when Lancashire were all out for 356. The last wicket had realized 48.

Sussex opened their innings with Marlow and Bean, while the attack was shared by Mold and Watson. With only six runs recorded Marlow's wicket was disturbed by a ball which glanced in off his pads, while Hollands, after driving Watson over the ring, left at 25. Mr Newham and Bean improved the state of affairs; both played excellently for a brief time, but the home captain was soon taken at short-leg, while at 64 Bean fell to third man. Disasters came quickly upon Sussex, Mold's bowling being particularly effective. Mr Brann was caught at slip at 66, and after he had helped Guttridge to add 20 he too succumbed to Mold. The last-named next got out Guttridge and Humphreys in one over, and eight wickets were down for 88. Mr Andrews tried hard to improve matters, but no one stayed with him, and by 3 o'clock Sussex were all out for 105.

With arrears of 251 the follow-on was begun, the same batting order being adopted. This time Bean and Marlow raised the figures to 28, and then the former fell to the wicket-keeper. A good piece of fielding by Mr Crosfield helped to run out Hollands, from which point the fortunes of the home team waned. The score was still only 43 when Marlow was dismissed by a “bailer,” while Mr Brann played the first ball he received into slip’s hands. Four for 43. Guttridge and Mr Newham made a short stay before the latter was run out at 60. Hide next joined Guttridge, whose hitting was vigorous, but at 80 Mold clean bowled him. Mr Andrews remained while 14 were added, and the last three batsmen averaged ten runs apiece. The venture realized 126, and Lancashire won by an innings and 125 runs. The afternoon had been fine and there was a good attendance.

15 August: DERBYSHIRE v YORKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/113/113429.html)

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

At Derby yesterday, after some delay through rain, Yorkshire, who won the toss, went in first, and their innings occupied the greater portion of cricketing hours. Hall bowled well for the home side, and his five wickets averaged 13 runs each.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 August, page 5)

On a wicket that assisted the bowlers to some extent at Derby yesterday, the home team managed to draw to within 42 of their rivals' first innings total, but in the second innings Yorkshire scored heavily, and the 100 went up with only one man out. Runs averaged about 90 an hour.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 August, page 5)

The closing day's cricket in this match at Derby was excellent. Yesterday Yorkshire raised their figures to 355, and then declared their innings at an end. Ulyett's 85 embraced six fours, six threes and 13 twos. Derbyshire, after losing six wickets for less than ten runs each, fared well, Storer, Malthouse and Hall batting freely. Yorkshire won by 187 runs . . .

15 August: LEICESTERSHIRE v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/125/125278.html)

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

The Essex eleven yesterday had the advantage of batting first on a good wicket at Leicester. Messrs Lucas and Johnston made a fine stand for the second partnership, and the excellence of their play was the characteristic of their innings.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 August, page 5)

At Leicester yesterday the home side met with much batting success, and the end of an innings to each county left a difference of only 29 runs in favour of Essex. The visitors up to a certain point fared well at the second attempt, but the rapid dismissal of the later batsmen caused the final record to be smaller than at one time seemed probable. Woodcock took six wickets for 38 runs.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 August, page 5)

After an excellent fight these counties finished their match at Leicester yesterday, when the home eleven won by five wickets. Leicestershire had been left with 148 to make for victory. Warren met with much batting success.

18 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3871.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 August, page 5)

The return between these counties formed the second part of the programme of the Cheltenham Week. Surrey sent down the eleven which were victorious on the previous day against Somerset, but there were two variations in the home team, Mr Croome and Board giving way to Mr Page and Murch. As elsewhere, rain interfered with the match.

Gloucestershire won the toss, and within a few minutes of noon Dr E M Grace and Mr Radcliffe faced the attacks of Lohmann and Lockwood. The light was bad, yet the former batsman made seven runs off the first two balls. Mr Radcliffe had not scored when Mr Shuter tried hard to catch him in the slips and only just failed to get the ball. At 21 Dr E M Grace fell to the wicket-keeper, and Mr Rice appeared. When only nine runs had been added by Mr Radcliffe he played the ball into the hands of third man. Painter joined Mr Rice, and the total having been advanced to 48, rain stopped play at 1 o'clock.

Batting was not resumed until the lapse of three hours and ten minutes. Then, without addition to the score, Painter was caught by the wicket-keeper standing back. Three down. Dr W G Grace made lucky hits through the slips for four and three, after which he obtained 11 in an over of Lohmann's. At 81 he played on and, it should be noted, that his 25 was made in seven hits – viz., four fours and three threes. Just prior to the Gloucestershire captain's dismissal Mr Rice had, at the same total, been caught at slip. Half the wickets were now down. Quite a collapse followed. Captain Luard and Mr Ferris were bowled, Mr Page caught by the wicket-keeper, Roberts taken in the slips and Murch at point. The last five batsmen were dismissed for a dozen runs. Total 93. It had only taken 40 overs to get through the innings.

Abel and Baldwin started Surrey's batting at 5.25. Roberts and Murch were the bowlers. Good cricket was witnessed, and at 27 Mr Ferris went on for Roberts. No wicket had fallen, however, when stumps were drawn . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 August, page 7)

Yesterday was by far the best day of the festival at Cheltenham. Glorious weather came for the first time of the week, and the large company that assembled furnished a record county gate for the Cheltenham ground. On Thursday evening Surrey, having dismissed their rivals for a meagre 93, had made 42 without loss of wicket.

Abel and Baldwin went in with the innings at 11.35 to the bowling of Murch and Roberts. The partnership ended at 56, when Abel played under a bumping ball and was taken at third man. Neither Maurice Read nor Henderson gave much trouble (both were caught by the wicket-keeper) and three men were out for 90, when Baldwin and Mr W W Read got together. Although the bowling underwent various changes, the stand of these batsmen produced 70 in an hour, as the result of good cricket. Baldwin was fourth out at 160, caught at slip for 60. He had been in two hours and a half, and his chief contributions were four fours, five threes and seven twos. Lockwood soon skied the ball back to the bowler, but Lohmann stayed with Mr Read 25 minutes, during which 68 runs were put on. The record at luncheon was 224, and the second hundred had been made in a

little over an hour.

After the interval Surrey's last five wickets fell in half an hour for 40 runs. Lohmann and Mr Read were both taken in the deep field. The latter was eighth to leave at 259, having by most brilliant batting scored 107 out of 169 put on while in. He hit 16 fours, five threes, nine twos and ten singles. The visitors finished their innings at half-past 3.

Going in against arrears of 171, Gloucestershire lost Mr Radcliffe at 21, and when Abel relieved Lockwood Dr E M Grace was bowled. Then ensued the fine batting of Dr W G Grace and Mr Rice. The 100 was reached at a quarter to 6 . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 22 August, page 8)

During the last two days of the festival the weather made some amends for its earlier unkindness, and the brighter conditions under which the second match was brought to a close were well appreciated by a numerous company. In spite of the capital start made by Gloucestershire in their second innings of Friday evening they could scarcely have dared hope to avert defeat against their formidable opponents. But they fared rather badly on Saturday when the good promise of a stout uphill fight was not fulfilled.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Rice, who had become partners overnight with the figures at 40 for two wickets and had averaged the score to 113, resumed the home innings at half-past 11; Lohmann and Lockwood were the bowlers. After a few quiet overs Dr Grace skied the ball in the slips where any of the three fieldsmen might have caught it; Abel attempted the catch and failed. This error, fortunately for Surrey, proved of little moment, as the home captain had added only a single when at 133 he was given out lbw. In two hours the stand had produced 93; Dr Grace's 64 was the result of fine cricket, and the chief hits were six fours and eight twos. Three down.

The game now went steadily against Gloucestershire: Captain Luard had his middle stump bowled down and, after a slow period of play, during which there was a sequence of 14 maidens, Abel relieved Lockwood, with the result that Mr Rice was run out. He went forward and just touched the ball, his wicket being lost before he could get back. Mr Rice had once more illustrated his value to Gloucestershire; in two and a half hours he made a careful 42.

In Abel's third over Painter left, after which Messrs Page and Ferris were together while the innings defeat was averted. Lockwood and Richardson took up the bowling, and the innings came to a rapid end. Mr Ferris was caught at slip, a single later Murch and Mr Page were bowled, and the quick dismissal of Roberts closed the innings for 197. Lockwood's bowling had again been very effective, and his 12 wickets in the match averaged nine runs each.

Surrey wanted only 27 to win, and Mr Shuter, playing particularly well, and Maurice Read scored these in a quarter of an hour. Thus Surrey won by ten wickets and raised their points in the county championship to the level of Notts.

18 August: KENT v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3872.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 August, page 5)

Rain fell heavily during yesterday morning at Maidstone, and although two attempts (at 1 and 4 o'clock) were made to start play in this return match at Mote-park, rain prevented it. Yorkshire have won the toss . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 August, page 7)

In this match, at the picturesque Mote-park, Maidstone, yesterday, the rain, which had prevented the bowling of a ball on the first day, caused more delays. Choice of innings had fallen to Yorkshire, and at a quarter to 12 Lord Hawke and Mr E Smith took up their positions on a slow wicket. Martin and Walter Wright were the bowlers.

The opening was lively, Mr Smith being in good form and playing with plenty of freedom. But at 24 Lord Hawke was caught at mid-off and, with only a single added, a ball from Wright completely beat Wardall. Then followed a long partnership, shared by Messrs Smith and Sellers. The former, however, had escaped at the hands of Mr Patterson when he had scored only 18, and this error cost Kent severe trouble. Between 12.20, when the figures were 41, and a quarter to 4 cricket was prevented by rain.

The home side had now to bowl and field with a wet ball, and the batsmen scored freely. In 20 minutes 35 runs were added, and then, at 76, A and W Hearne were tried. Despite these and other changes the 100 went up at half-past 4, but at 116 the bowling of Mr Sellers terminated the stand. In less than an hour 91 had been put on. Ulyett came in, and there was further rain, with the result that the game was abandoned for the day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 22 August, page 8)

At Mote Park, Maidstone, on Saturday Yorkshire resumed their innings, in which three wickets were lost for 118, at a quarter-past 11. Mr Smith and Ulyett, the not-outs with 76 and 2, were opposed by Martin and Wright.

With the score at 136 Mr Smith was well caught at wicket. At 138 Wainwright fell to slip; a single later Peel gave W Hearne, who had gone on at 130, a return catch, while at 155 Ulyett, having especially at the hands of Wright at extra mid-off, was bowled. Some fine strokes by Tunncliffe infused new life into the close of the visitors' batting; but with Brown caught at slip and Moorhouse at mid-off, and Hirst bowled, the innings ended just before 1 o'clock for 188.

Kent went in after the usual interval, A Hearne and Mr Stewart facing the attacks of Peel and Wainwright. Mr Stewart gave a chance at wicket and then played on; Alec Hearne left at 23, and directly after luncheon Wainwright bowled Mr Weigall. Three for 38. Mr Fox now joined Mr Patterson, who played steadily, but with 17 runs added Peel sent back the former. With four men out for 55, the visitors must have begun to think of success. But their hopes were soon checked by the careful defence of Mr Patterson and George Hearne. Yorkshire adopted many bowling changes,

but the 100 was reached at 4 o'clock and quickly afterwards a follow on was averted. Mr Smith was tried for the first time at 128, and he met with great success, as, with only a single added, he got Mr Patterson finely caught at slip. Seventy-four had been scored for the fifth wicket; the Kent captain's 47 being an excellent innings occupying two hours.

Wickets soon fell rapidly; Mr Solbé was out at 155 and George Hearne at 156; Mr Kemp returned the ball at 176[?], and at 180 Wright and W Hearne were disposed of, and then the innings closed, the match being left drawn . . .

18 August: MIDDLESEX v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3873.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 August, page 5)

Under most dismal conditions the return match between these counties began yesterday at Lord's. In addition to the interruptions from rain, a mist hung over the ground at the outset, and the light was most treacherous.

Lancashire won the toss, and at ten minutes past 12 A and F Ward took possession of a wicket pitched rather high up. Mr Nepean and J T Hearne were the bowlers. The score was soon advanced to 23, when a catch at mid-off dismissed A Ward. One down. Sugg arrived, and at 37 Mr Stoddart relieved Hearne. A square-leg hit was made by the last-comer from the change, while at 1 o'clock the 50 was reached. Mr Nepean at 55 gave up the ball to Rawlin, from whose first delivery Sugg was caught by Mr O'Brien running from point. Two down. Smith joined F Ward, but at ten minutes past 1 rain stopped the game for 20 minutes, and at five minutes to 2 rain again caused the players to retreat. Including the interval for luncheon, the game was delayed for two hours.

Rawlin then bowled from the nursery end, and in his first over F Ward cut him for four. Three through the slips to Smith from J T Hearne sent the total beyond the 100 at 4 o'clock. A sharp catch at slip dismissed F Ward with the score at 114; he had been batting an hour and three-quarters, and his chief hits were eight fours, five threes and four twos. Briggs, who was too ill to take part in the match against Sussex, joined Smith, and the latter was quickly caught at slip. Four for 116. Baker made a fine on-drive to the spectators from Hearne, and then caused him to be taken in the slips. Half the wickets were now down for 138.

Briggs was bowled, and Mr Hornby, who received quite an ovation, joined Yates. The latter was bowled off his pads. Seven for 142. A sharp catch by the wicket-keeper sent back Mr Kemble, and Watson, making a lofty drive to the off, was secured by Mr Stoddart, who judged the ball well, while Mr Hornby was bowled off his pads. Total, 156; length of innings, two hours and three-quarters.

The light, which during the afternoon's batting for Lancashire had been good, now became so dull and heavy that it was decided to defer play. At ten minutes to 6, however, Messrs Webbe and Stoddart opposed the attacks of Mold and Watson, and when 17 had been registered the light again became so bad that, after waiting a little time, stumps were drawn for the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 August, page 7)

The conditions under which cricket was played at Lord's yesterday were even worse than on Thursday. After the storms of the previous night and the other rain the start was necessarily deferred until late in the day.

At 4.15 Middlesex, who had scored 17 for no wicket, went on with the batting. Messrs Stoddart and Webbe, the not-outs with 11 and 3, were confronted by Mold (pavilion end) and Watson. With his third ball the former sent back Mr Stoddart, the figures being still only 17. Mr Stoddart arrived to the assistance of his captain, and as the defence became very steady the Lancashire attack underwent a change. Smith displaced Watson at 29 and a single later the latter crossed over.

Success quickly attended the new bowler, who at 38 got Mr Scott secured at mid-on.

With Mr O'Brien in the cricket became pretty lively. Mr Webbe secured four by a leg hit and two by a cut, while his companion sent Smith to the boundary. In this manner the 50 was rapidly reached at 5 o'clock. Mold now resumed, but the light was bad and rain soon brought about a delay, the record being 55 for two wickets.

At ten minutes to 6 the weather had improved sufficiently for the resumption of play. Smith and Mold again shared the bowling. Each batsman secured three by a drive, and then, at 63, Mr Webbe succumbed to a clever catch low down at slip – the 29 of the Middlesex captain was the result of good cricket. Three for 63. Mr Henery arrived, and during the last half hour the free cricket of both batsmen compensated for any previous dullness in the cricket. Mr O'Brien made a four to leg and then played Smith square for a like number. Following various threes came 16 runs in an over of Mold – viz., four fours (three of them cuts) by Mr Henery. Thirty-two had been scored in two overs. The 100 had by this time been passed, and although Briggs and Watson at once took up the bowling there was no cessation of the free hitting. Sixty-five runs had been added in a little over half an hour, when play ceased . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 22 August, page 8)

In this match, at Lord's, Middlesex gained a brilliant victory late on Saturday afternoon. Their success was in no small measure due to the fine hitting with which Messrs O'Brien and Henery closed the second day's play.

The game was resumed at 20 minutes to 12, and the invaluable partnership of Messrs O'Brien and Henery was quickly severed by the former falling to Watson, lbw. In 35 minutes the fourth wicket had yielded 74 runs. Mr Henery survived only a few more minutes, as, after making a fine four to leg, he was taken in the deep field. He had scored his 50 in 40 minutes by seven fours, two threes, six twos and four singles. Mr Ford was stumped, and Rawlin, after many vain endeavours to score from Briggs, at last skied a ball from that bowler, slip making an easy catch.

Seven for 153, and the wicket playing very badly, seemed to promise only a slight difference between the Lancastrian and Middlesex scores. But Mr Jardine, who has before now played a fine game under adverse conditions, batted with great skill, assisted by Mr Nepean. He scored three threes by cuts and then hit was bowler to the square-leg boundary. At 194, however, he was out to a fine catch at mid-on by Baker, who took the ball wide with his right hand from a hard drive. This partnership had realized 38 in 25 minutes. After the 200 had gone up Mr Nepean was cleverly caught at mid-off, the fieldsman getting the ball close to the ground and falling over in making the catch. Mr M'Gregor made various good strokes, but Hearne was run out in attempting to obtain five for a ball that had gone by the wicket-keeper. Thus the innings, which had begun on Thursday evening, was after a good deal of interruption, ended, and Middlesex were able to claim the substantial lead of 58.

Lancashire started in a way that savoured of an early defeat, for not a single was scored when Mr M'Gregor made a good catch at the wicket that dismissed Albert Ward. Their prospects brightened during the stay of Sugg and Frank Ward. The former began carefully, but in the half-hour preceding luncheon he played a brilliant game. He made three drives for four each and thrice cut the ball to the boundary – all fine strokes. He was secured at mid-on just before the interval, and Middlesex were well rid of perhaps their most dangerous opponent.

After luncheon no one beyond Frank Ward was able long to withstand the home attacks. The fielding of Middlesex, like that of Lancashire, was particularly smart, and the first incident of note following the adjournment was a wonderful catch at mid-off by Mr Ford, who caught Smith from a hard drive with the right hand low down. Briggs sent the ball into the hands of cover-point, and Baker, after a narrow escape of being run out, was bowled by a ball that broke back. Five for 66. Yates was taken at slip in hitting to leg, and Mr Hornby, after a brief stay, during which his sharp running propensities were noticeable, was out leg-before. Frank Ward was the next to go – caught at mid-off for a faultless 44 that had extended over two hours. Rawlin brought off a remarkable catch running from mid-on, by which he dismissed Mr Kemble, and then the bowling of Mold terminated the innings and left Middlesex only 40 to get to win. Hearne's five wickets for 38 gave him a record in the match of 11 at an average cost of a little over eight runs each.

Messrs Webbe and Stoddart rapidly obtained 25 of the runs necessary to secure Middlesex the victory. Mold then bowled down Mr Stoddart's leg stump. Mr Scott arrived and made the winning hit to leg for three. Middlesex won by nine wickets. Between four and five thousand people were present, and the victors were much cheered at the finish.

18 August: SOMERSET v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3874.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 August, page 5)

Rain delayed the commencement of this return match yesterday at Taunton. By 3 o'clock, however, it had quite cleared, and a fine afternoon tempted between two and three thousand people to visit the ground. Notts are playing the same eleven as that which appeared at Cheltenham, while on the home side Mr G Fowler takes the place of Mr W N Roe.

Somerset were successful in the toss, and sent in Messrs Hewett and Palairt to the bowling of Attewell and Shacklock. The score rose rapidly, Mr Hewett making two threes from Attewell and a couple of boundary hits off Shacklock. Mr Palairt played steady cricket. His companion having again secured a four by a leg-hit from Shacklock, that bowler, at 43, gave way to Barnes. In the latter's first over Mr Hewett made a very risky strokes in the direction of mid-on. Within the hour this batsman was credited with 50 out of the 60 runs then registered. When four more had been added Flowers relieved Barnes, but a separation was brought about by the other bowler, who induced Mr Palairt to return him the ball.

Mr Challen arrived, and Mr Hewett, after making a fine straight drive for four, was caught in the long-field. He had obtained his 60 runs in an hour and a quarter, and these included six fours, two threes and seven twos. Mr Hedley joined Mr Challen, who was very nearly caught in the long-field by Mr Dixon. The last-comer twice drove Flowers for four, and the 100 was telegraphed at a quarter to 5. Mr Challen added another four by a drive, but at 107 he lost the company of Mr Hedley, who was run out through a fine return of Shacklock's. Mr Newton and Mr Challen played in a determined manner for some little time. Each batsman made a cut for four, and Barnes went on for Attewell. When 27 runs had been added Mr Newton was caught at wicket, and Mr Hill succeeded him. Quick scoring ensued, especially off Barnes. Mr Challen made several good strokes, while Mr Hill obtained eight by a drive and a square-leg hit from Barnes. At length Mr Challen fell to a fine right-handed catch high up at extra mid-off by Attewell. He had been at the wickets an hour and a half, and had batted well, especially in the latter part of his innings; his principal figures were six fours, a three and seven twos. Five for 168, the last partnership having yielded 34.

Mr Woods was at once out leg-before-wicket. Mr Fowler came in. Attewell relieved Flowers and Shacklock went on for Barnes. The batsmen had not been separated, however, when stumps were drawn . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 August, page 7)

The defeat of the all-powerful Nottinghamshire eleven, who have twice been the vanquishers of Surrey, has come from a quarter that, in spite on Somerset's many brilliant feats, was not among those to which the Midland county's friends turned with much anxiety. Somerset's great win yesterday at Taunton will stand out prominently among the county's triumphs, by which the western side has so well justified its inclusion in the first-class group.

Among the incidents closely identified with the success of Somerset were the fine hitting of Mr Palairt on Thursday, the more careful defence of Mr Challen, the vigorous play of Mr V T Hill

(who will be readily remembered by his connexion with Oxford's win at Lord's this year) and the bowling of Tyler. Notts quite failed on the bad wicket.

Thursday evening had left Somerset with their first innings incomplete for a score of 184 and four wickets still to fall, Messrs Hill and Fowler, with 27 and four, being the not-outs. After an over from Shacklock the bowling was undertaken by Flowers and Attewell. Before he had increased his overnight figures Mr Hill gave a difficult chance to Gunn in the long-field, and then had a narrow escape in the slips. From this point, however, he batted excellently, although for some time most runs came from Mr Fowler. The second 100 appeared at 20 minutes to 12, and various fours and other items raised the figures to 223. Mr Dixon and Gunn were now the bowlers, but the rate of run-getting remained unabated, and Mr Hill soon reached 50. So far he had been in an hour and a quarter; but he now began to hit in earnest, and the 250 went up at 12 o'clock, the last 50 runs having been made in 20 minutes. All sorts of bowling changes were adopted, and at last, after the variations had, it was thought, been exhausted, Daft tried his skill with immediate success, for his first ball Mr Fowler sent into the hands of cover-point. During the morning 96 runs had been put on in 70 minutes, while the partnership altogether had yielded 112 runs for the seventh wicket. Seven for 280.

Mr Hill was quickly afterwards taken by the wicket-keeper for a superb 93. He had come in overnight when four men were out for 134, and beyond the mistakes already mentioned at the beginning of the day, he gave no chance. He was in two hours, and his chief figures were 12 fours, five threes and six twos. He was loudly cheered upon retiring. Eight for 289. Mr Robinson and Nichols were together while 20 were added, but both were quickly sent back, and at five minutes to 1 Somerset were all out for 309 – the result of four and a half hours' play, and the largest score made against Notts this season.

Mr Dixon and Shrewsbury began the visitors' innings to the bowling of Mr Woods and Tyler, but only seven runs were recorded when Mr Dixon fell to a fine catch at cover-point, Mr Challen falling in securing the ball. After luncheon Gunn and Shrewsbury raised the record to 25, and then, with Shrewsbury caught in the slips, the ill-fortunes of the Nottingham eleven set in with startling persistency. Barnes was stumped at 30, and after Flowers and Gunn had obtained 36 in a quarter of an hour, the former, who had batted vigorously during a brief stay, played on. At 86 Daft was out lbw, and when Mr Woods, through a strain, gave up the bowling to Mr Hedley the innings quickly ended. Gunn left at 101; he had been in an hour and 20 minutes. The last wicket fell for 118 at 3.55.

With arrears of 191 Notts followed on. Mr Woods was unable to play further owing to his strain, and Mr Roe fielded as substitute. Shrewsbury was bowled first ball by Tyler, and so disastrous was the game for Notts that at nine Gunn was leg-before, at 13 and 17 Barnes and Flowers were caught at wicket, and at 26 Mr Dixon played on; Shacklock was finely caught at slip, Mr Jones fell to third man, and by half-past 5 the innings was completed for 69, having lasted an hour and a quarter.

Tyler was shouldered to the pavilion, and there was a remarkable scene of enthusiasm. Although the pitch was difficult, the performances of the left-handed bowler were wonderful against such a batting side as possessed by Notts. He took in all 15 wickets, and his nine in the second innings cost only 33 runs. The second day had proved fine, and the large company contributed £44 as a present for Tyler. Somerset won by an innings and 122 runs; it should be mentioned that their fielding was excellent.

18 August: WARWICKSHIRE v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128401.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 August, page 5)

Although there was some interruption through the weather, the cricket at the County Ground, Birmingham, yesterday, was not lacking in life. Indeed the scoring proved heavy for, besides a remarkably good not-out contribution of 104 by Lilley, there were capital scores by Mr Docker and various other members of the side. Mr Docker's vigorous 52 included eight fours. It will be noted that both sides are strong.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 August, page 7)

Warwickshire followed up their heavy scoring (for which they were mostly indebted to Lilley's fine innings) by getting much the best of the game with Essex, at Birmingham yesterday – the second day of the match.

Day 3 (report from Monday 22 August, page 8)

At Birmingham on Saturday this match was brought to a close. Warwickshire won by an innings and 58 runs.

The success of Surrey and Cheltenham on Saturday raises their score to the level of Notts – that is, according to the rule which the counties laid down a couple of years ago by which the position was secured by subtracting losses from wins and ignoring drawn games. Surrey and Notts are thus even; each has two matches to play and the counties which have to be met are Lancashire and Kent. Up to the present the positions are:-

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Notts	14	10	1	3	9
Surrey	14	11	2	1	9
Somerset	12	7	5	0	2
Lancashire	14	6	4	4	2
Middlesex	13	6	5	2	1
Yorkshire	14	5	5	4	0
Kent	13	2	8	3	-6
Gloucestershire	13	1	8	4	-7
Sussex	13	1	11	1	-10

22 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3875.html)

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

Yesterday, on the county ground at Bristol, the return match between these counties was begun. Mr F S Jackson, the Cambridge captain, reappeared in the visitors' side, although Lord Hawke and Hunter were absent; while Board had sufficiently recovered to keep wicket for Gloucestershire.

Yorkshire won the toss and went in on a fast, true wicket. Mr Jackson and Mr Smith started well against the bowling of Mr Ferris and Roberts, and so quick was the scoring that two changes were tried before Dr Grace bowled Mr Smith at 40. Wainwright helped to add 23 for the second partnership, but Mr Sellers was speedily taken at mid-on. Three for 75. Mr Jackson's next companion was Peel, who played steadily, and the figures reached the 100 after an hour and a half's cricket. The attack underwent plenty of variation, but the luncheon interval had almost arrived before Roberts sent back Peel. Forty had been scored for the fourth wicket.

Further resistance was offered by Wardall, and the record stood at 160 when Mr Jackson's excellent innings ended through a good catch in the long-field by Mr Page. His 76 extended over two hours and a quarter, and included seven fours, three threes and seven twos. Ulyett and Wardall were dismissed quickly afterwards, and with seven men out for 172 Brown and Tunnicliffe became associated. Then ensued the longest stand of the innings. Both men hit vigorously; the 200 was passed within a few minutes of 4 o'clock, while the total was 230, or 58 for the wicket, when a catch at mid-on disposed of Tunnicliffe. Eventually the innings terminated for 258.

Mr E M Grace and Mr Radcliffe began the home batting in brilliant style, scoring 53 in 35 minutes before the latter fell to a catch at slip. Mr Page went in . . .

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

When play ceased in this match at Bristol on Monday evening a capital day's cricket had been seen; Yorkshire scored 258, and the home side made 65 for the loss of Mr Radcliffe's wicket. There were some showers in the morning of Yesterday, and although the earlier cricketing hours were not interfered with the weather remained dull and threatening.

Dr E M Grace and Mr Page, the not-outs with 31 and 8, proceeded with the batting at 11.35, Peel and Mr Jackson being the bowlers. Dr Grace cut and drove the latter to the boundary, and Mr Page also made a four from the same end, a rate of run-getting that caused a double variation in the attack, Mr Smith and Wardall going on. The efforts of the Yorkshire captain were attended with great success, for in his first over he got both Dr Grace and Mr Page taken in the slips. Painter and Mr Rice remained partners for a brief time. The professional scored nine in an over from Wardall; but after the 100 had gone up at 12.20 he was caught at wicket.

Dr W G Grace then aided Mr Rice, who, having given a difficult chance in the slips, scored pretty freely for a few overs. But the defence soon became quiet, and although the bowling was twice changed (Peel and Wainwright went on) the total was 156 when at 1.35 rain caused a delay. There was no further cricket until 3 o'clock, and even then only a couple of overs had been sent down when the weather stopped the game for the day. Up to the present Dr Grace and Mr Rice have

obtained 55 runs for the fifth wicket. Gloucestershire, with only four men out, are within 99 of their rival's figures.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 25 August, page 4)

In beautiful weather the return match between these counties was brought to a close yesterday at Bristol. The wicket played much better than might have been expected after the heavy rain of Tuesday. Against Yorkshire's innings of 258 Gloucestershire had scored 150 for four wickets, Dr W G Grace and Mr Rice being the not-outs with 21 and 34.

The home side went on with their batting at 11.35. Wainwright and Peel, who began the attack, changed ends at 178, and the alteration was at once effective, as at 180 Mr Rice's steady innings was terminated by a ball from Wainwright. The partnership for the fifth wicket had yielded 76 runs. With Captain Luard at the wicket the batting became much more attractive, and a couple of fours in an over caused Mr Jackson to take the ball from Peel, while Mr Smith went on at the opposite end. Dr Grace scored four in the latter's first over, bringing up 200 at a quarter to 1; a few moments later "WG" completed his 50.

The innings was soon afterwards finished. Fifty-three had been put on when Captain Luard fell to a catch at wicket. Wainwright got two other men out in the same over – Mr Ferris caught at slip and Murch bowled. All three wickets were captured at [233]. Six runs later Dr Grace was taken at cover point, and Board left at 240. Thus the innings was somewhat abruptly terminated. Dr Grace's 61 occupied three hours, and included one four, four threes and seven twos.

Yorkshire, who held a lead of 18, entered upon their second innings just before luncheon. Messrs Jackson and Smith began batting to the bowling of Mr Ferris and Roberts. Only nine runs were obtained when Mr Smith drove the ball into the hands of mid-on, and at 24 Mr Jackson was out in a similar manner. Wainwright was lost at the same figures. A catch at short leg soon sent back Peel, while Dr E M Grace captured Wardall at point at 47. Mr Sellers, after playing with great care and taking 50 minutes to make 11, was secured at slip. Six for 52.

A change was, however, at hand in the shape of some fine, vigorous cricket by Tunnicliffe and Ulyett. Murch went on to bowl at 87 in lieu of Roberts and almost got out Tunnicliffe, who sent the ball into the long field where Mr Rice misjudged it. After the 100 had been reached at ten minutes to 5 there were various bowling changes. Roberts relieved Mr Ferris for a few overs, but when the latter resumed Ulyett was dismissed. This had been an invaluable stand for the visitors; 65 runs had been added. Seven for 117. Brown stayed until 146 and was then caught at wicket. After Mr W G Grace took the ball, Tunnicliffe fell to a fine one hand catch in the long field. He had been in an hour and a quarter for his 53, in which were six fours, five threes and three twos. Moorhouse and Ellis remained together the rest of the time, and the match was left drawn . . .

22 August: SOMERSET v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3876.html)

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

This contest opened at Taunton yesterday. Somerset's eleven was the same that beat Notts on Friday last, but Middlesex were unable to secure the services of Mr Nepean, Mr Jardine and Mr Scott. A gentleman new to important matches appeared – Mr W R Collins, of Wellington College and Pinner, who has a good local reputation. Fine weather favoured the game and there was a large attendance.

Somerset won the toss and took first innings. Messrs Hewett and Palairet began the batting, and were opposed by Hearne and Rawlin. Thirty-one runs were scored in less than half an hour; then the home captain was bowled, and quickly afterwards came the dismissal of Mr Palairet and Mr Challen, making three wickets down for 48. Messrs Hedley and Newton gave the visitors a lot of trouble and, although the bowling was varied, 63 were added in three-quarters of an hour before a catch at point sent back Mr Newton. The luncheon record was 127 for four wickets.

Afterwards the home side were rapidly got out by Phillips. Mr Hedley was secured in the second over – c and b – for 58, the result of capital cricket and inclusive of seven fours, three threes and four twos. He was batting an hour and a quarter. Messrs Hill and Fowler made a few good hits, but by 3.25 the side were out for 160. Since the interval six wickets had fallen in half an hour for 33 runs. Phillips signaled his reappearance for the Londoners by an excellent piece of bowling. After luncheon his figures were – six overs (one maiden), 15 runs, five wickets.

Middlesex lost their captain and Br O'Brien for 26 runs. Then followed a brief spell of good hitting by Messrs Stoddart and Henery, but subsequent Phillips alone fared well and his steady play was invaluable. He saw the rest of the team dismissed, and the innings, which lasted an hour and 35 minutes, closed for 123. Somerset left off 59 to the good and nine wickets to fall.

The proceeds of the match are for the benefit of Fothergill, whose left hand bowling was of great service to Somerset in past years.

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

Another success by the Somerset eleven has to be recorded. Throughout yesterday they were playing a winning game, and the skill displayed by them in batting, bowling and fielding quite merited the triumph they gained late in the afternoon, and this was Somerset's seventh victory out of their last nine contests.

Warm and dull weather was experienced at Taunton on the concluding day. Somerset were 50 to the good with only one man out in the second innings. Messrs Challen and Palairet, who had become partners at 12, batted in fine style, and in the course of three-quarters of an hour added 75 more runs. Indeed, their partnership for the second wicket lasted only an hour and produced 87. Mr Palairet was well caught in the long field for 46, in which were six fours, four threes and four twos. Another stand was made by Messrs Hedley and Challen, who put on 45 in 20 minutes, before the latter's admirable innings was terminated by a ball from Mr Ford. He had contributed 72 in an hour and a half by eleven fours, a three, eight twos and singles. Subsequently, Mr Newton and Mr

Hedley were quickly out, but Messrs Hill and Woods batted steadily, and at luncheon time the score was 186. In the course of half an hour afterwards the remaining five batsmen were dismissed at a cost of only 31 runs.

Middlesex began the last innings of the match at ten minutes past 3, when Messrs Stoddart and Webbe went in. There were 255 runs required for victory. The visiting captain succumbed to a catch at slip, and at 21 Mr Stoddart returned the ball. Mr O'Brien received some assistance from Phillips and Mr Henery in momentarily checking the tide of ill-fortune, and the partnerships produced 30 and 38 respectively. However, when the seventh wicket fell, the record was only 95. Great improvement was shown by the last three visitors, who almost doubled the score. Mr M'Gregor played well, and Mr Lucas and Hearne rendered considerable aid.

The chief honours, though, were carried off by Mr T C O'Brien, whose 70 was made by excellent cricket. He was fourth on the order, and was eighth out at 128, after a stay of an hour and a half; he hit two sixes, five fours and eight twos. It may be remembered that Mr O'Brien obtained a couple of seventies in the Whitsuntide match between these counties at Lord's. Somerset, who won by 70 runs, were loudly cheered at the finish by the large company.

22 August: SURREY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3877.html)

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

The keenness of the fight for the county championship has revived that interest in Surrey's cricket which in some degree waned through the double reverse sustained at the hands of Nottinghamshire. With beautiful weather, the attendance at the Oval in the afternoon must have reached 12,000. Surrey intrusted its fortunes to the side that triumphed so well in the West Country last week, and Lancashire was content to play the eleven that lost to Middlesex, with the substitution of Mr Crosfield for Mr Hornby as captain.

After a very heavy dew the wicket played badly in the early morning, the ball bumping at both ends and the bowlers at times getting on a remarkable break. Surrey, losing the toss, took the field at 12 o'clock. Frank and Albert Ward opened the visitors' batting, and Lockwood and Lohmann, as usual, were the first Surrey bowlers. By slow stages the score was advanced to eight, and then A Ward got under a ball and sent it into the hands of slip. Sugg came in and made some improvement in Lancastrian affairs, until at 24 a bumping ball got up off the shoulder of F Ward's bat and Abel secured it running from short slip.

As Sugg and Smith seemed likely to give trouble Mr Shuter gave Abel a trial at the pavilion end, a change quickly attended with success, for in the second over Brockwell with a clever catch at point got out Sugg. Three for 44. Briggs arrived and 50 went up after an hour and a quarter's play. Lockwood soon resumed and bowled Briggs, while with Richardson on at the other end in place of Lohmann the close of the visitors' innings came in view. Baker profited little by an escape at the hands of Lohmann at slip, as at 61 Richardson sent his off stump out of the ground. Smith, having been in an hour for nine, was taken by the wicket-keeper standing back, and Mr Crosfield fell to a good catch at extra slip. Seven for 68. The last three men averaged nine runs each, and a few minutes after 3 o'clock Lancashire were all out for 99. Once more had Lockwood carried off the bowling honours: from the time he went in a second time his analysis was – nine overs (two maidens), 27 runs, six wickets, while his full record was seven for 60.

When Surrey began their innings the turf played much better and improved rapidly. Baldwin and Abel batted admirably and runs were scored at a steady rate. At 27 Abel played on, and then in the same over Watson badly missed Maurice Read at short slip. However, at 37 the last-named was clean bowled, after which Henderson and Baldwin showed steady defence, 50 being reached after an hour and a quarter's play. At 76 Briggs tempted Baldwin to hit a ball wide on the off side, and the result was an easy catch for cover-point. The outgoing batsman played an excellent innings of 32, made in an hour and a half. Mold went on and bowled Henderson in his first over, four wickets being down for 76.

Mr Walter Read and Lockwood made matters very lively during their brief partnership. Twenty-seven were added in 18 minutes, and then Lockwood, who had hit four fours and two threes, was well caught in the long-field by Sugg. The "100" had gone up at 5.20. With Messrs Read and Shuter together there was no lack of life in the cricket, Mr Read contributing several fine drives and one leg hit for four, while his captain cut Briggs for four. Watson resumed but Mr Shuter cut him to the boundary twice in the first over, and so vigorous was the batting that frequent changes were resorted to. Mr Read at length skied the ball to cover-point; he had taken an hour to obtain his 30.

More free cricket followed the appearance of Lohmann, who drove a ball from Briggs over the ring, and after many other contributions, Mr Shuter served the same bowler in a like manner. Having obtained 40 the Surrey captain gave a chance to third man, but Yates failed to make the catch. Then the fast scoring continued, and there were loud cheers for the 200 and also the Surrey captain's 50. The partnership had produced 55 runs in half an hour, when stumps were drawn. Surrey, with four wickets in hand, are 110 to the good.

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

There was plenty of variety in the cricket at the Oval yesterday, when Surrey, as the overnight figures foreshadowed, triumphed over Lancashire. Again the weather was very fine and the attendance numbered about 10,000. Surrey, who had scored 209 for the loss of six wickets, went on with their batting at 11.35. Messrs Shuter and Lohmann, the not-outs with 52 and 21, were opposed by Mold and Briggs.

The wicket was affected at the outset by the heavy dew which had fallen, and for a long time the bowlers got a great deal of break on the ball. Mold and Briggs rapidly secured the outstanding batsmen. Lohmann and Mr Shuter raised the record to 220 and then both were out; their partnership extended over three-quarters of an hour and yielded 66. Mr Shuter's 56 embraced ten fours, two threes, two twos and six singles. Brockwell was taken in the long field and Wood at slip, and the innings, which had lasted about three and a half hours, closed for 229. Briggs and Mold had borne the brunt of the bowling, and the former's figures came out remarkably well considering how vigorous was the hitting of some of the home batsmen.

To make anything of a match Lancashire had to play a fine up-hill game, for their arrears amounted to 130, and the pitch, so far, gave few signs of improvement. They started indifferently against Lohmann and Lockwood. The innings began at ten minutes past 12, and during the first half an hour matters went so badly for the visitors that Mr Crosfield, F Ward, Smith and Sugg were dismissed for 24. Then followed some steady play by Briggs and Baker, who added 21 in 30 minutes, after which the former was taken by the wicket-keeper standing back.

Half the side had now been dismissed for 47, and there was every prospect of an early finish. But Baker continued his careful batting, and with Albert Ward for a partner made another stand. He seemed to give a sharp chance to Abel at slip, and then the 50 appeared at 1.40. Although the Surrey attack underwent a couple of changes – Abel and Richardson were tried – no further misfortune had befallen the Lancastrians up to the interval, when the runs were 75.

At a quarter to 3 Lohmann bowled from the pavilion end, with Lockwood opposite. Baker gave a hard chance to Richardson at mid-on, an escape which he little utilized, for at 88 Baldwin brilliantly caught him at extra mid-off where the ball was taken low down with the fieldsman running in. Forty-one had been obtained during the partnership, and Baker's capital innings, which had lasted an hour and a quarter, included seven fours and three twos. Yates was speedily dismissed by a good catch at cover point, and with seven men out for 91 the chances of an innings defeat being saved became remote.

However, from the time that Mr Kemble arrived at ten minutes past 3 the cricket proved lively. Albert Ward was bowled at 109, but Watson considerably profited by a mistake by Brockwell in the long field and stayed while 30 runs were added and the innings defeat averted. Mr Kemble's best strokes for some time were a couple of drives for four each. Watson skied the ball to slip at 139,

but when the innings seemed almost over there was a vigorous display of batting by Mold and Mr Kemble. It thoroughly aroused the enthusiasm of the onlookers. Richardson, Abel, Brockwell, Lohmann and Lockwood each bowled during the stand. Mold made a good many lucky strokes, but some of his drives were excellent. Nor did Mr Kemble spare the attack. There were several sharp singles, and it was by one of these that Mr Kemble reached his 50 amid loud cheers from the ring. In the next over the amateur had his middle stump bowled down; he had been in an hour and 20 minutes for his 50, in which were four fours, three threes and six twos. The last wicket had put on 58 runs, of which Mold contributed 36.

Surrey wanted 68 to win, and at ten minutes to 5 Baldwin and Abel began the task. Watson and Briggs shared the bowling. Eight runs were slowly scored before Abel played on, while at 33 Baldwin was easily secured at point. Mold, who had displaced Watson at 21, got Maurice Read caught at wicket at 41. Henderson and Mr W W Read then obtained the remaining runs, and by 6 o'clock Surrey had won by seven wickets. Henderson made some good strokes, but on one occasion ran great risk of being caught in the slips.

22 August: SUSSEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3878.html)

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

On a wicket in every way characteristic of the Hove Ground at Brighton, yesterday, the Kent eleven scored heavily and had not completed their innings at the end of the day. Fine weather was experienced and a large company assembled.

The visitors lost Alec Hearne and Mr Weigall for 29, but then followed a long stand by Messrs Stewart and Patterson, who put on 72 before the former was secured by third man at 101. Mr Patterson was fourth out for a brilliant 66, made out of 110 added during his stay of an hour and a quarter. Mr Le Fleming went in, and was not out at the drawing of stumps with 130 to his credit, having been in three hours and a half. He obtained his first 50 in a little over an hour, but afterward his play became more steady. George Hearne and Wright were Mr le Fleming's most useful partners.

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

Yesterday at the Hove Ground, Brighton, the turf remained true, and the second day's play of this match produced further good batting. Kent, who had scored 332 for the loss of seven wickets, occupied another hour and a half in completing their innings.

Mr Le Fleming added only four to his overnight score of 130 and then was caught at wicket. During a long stay of three hours and a half his only mistake seemed to be the chance to mid-on with his figures at 49. He contributed 15 fours, four threes and 17 twos. Wright and Martin put on 55 for the ninth wicket. The former ultimately remained unconquered for 70. This is the best innings he has played for Kent. Nine years ago he carried his bat through the Nottinghamshire innings against Gloucestershire at Trent-bridge for over 100.

Sussex went in at half-past 1. They lost four wickets for 68, but afterwards Mr Brann played brilliantly and with Mr Heasman scored 73 in 80 minutes. The rain caused a delay of half an hour . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 25 August, page 4)

Mr G Brann, of the Sussex county eleven, yesterday at Brighton, achieved a feat which in first-class cricket had only before been accomplished by Dr W G Grace – i.e., of playing two innings of three figures in one match. Mr Brann, who is a brilliant batsman, has frequently scored heavily for Sussex, and yesterday it was to him that the home side were mostly indebted for saving the game.

On Tuesday evening Sussex with three wickets only to fall wanted 154 to avert the follow on. Play was resumed at 20 minutes to 12 when Mr Brann, the not out with 78, was joined by Humphreys. The last three batsmen averaged ten runs each, and the innings closed at 12.30 for 229. Mr Brann was tenth to leave – caught at mid-off for 105; he went in fourth wicket down at 68, and during s stay of just under three hours made his runs out of 161. A sharp chance at slip on Tuesday evening was the solitary mistake of a brilliant innings, in which were 14 fours, two threes and nine twos.

Sussex, who were 193 behind, followed on shortly before 1 o'clock. At the start Wright and W Hearne were the bowlers. After Marlow had returned the ball, A Hearne superseded Wright and quickly got out Bean, while before the interval Hollands was stumped. At the adjournment the figures were 34 for three wickets.

Subsequently the affairs of Sussex improved during the partnership of Messrs Heasman and Newham. The former was stumped, and Mr Newham and Mr Somerset were both out by the time that the score had reached 95. Six down. As over two hours remained for play, the position of the game pointed to a win for Kent. Mr Brann and Guttridge added 76 in the next 65 minutes, and then the latter was leg-before. As it was only a quarter past 5 there was yet plenty of time for Kent to win. However, Humphreys batted carefully, Mr Brann continued his free game and steadily the visitors' prospect of success faded.

Mr Brann was out at 212. Some 30 minutes before he left he gave a chance to George Hearne at point, a mistake for which Kent paid dearly. Mr Brann made 101 in an hour and three-quarters by 11 fours, four threes, ten twos and singles, while one of the twos was increased to five by an overthrow. Humphreys was batting 70 minutes without scoring. The match was left drawn . . .

25 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3879.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 August, page 5)

Middlesex had a long day's fielding on the Clifton College Ground yesterday, although the average rate of run-getting was not fast, for between 12.10 and 6 o'clock only 237 runs were made. The home side was the same as drew with Yorkshire, but the visitors were strengthened by the inclusion of Mr Scott, who was unable to play in the match against Somerset. After some uncertainty in the morning, the weather became fine, and a large company watched the play.

Dr E M Grace and Mr Radcliffe went in first and obtained 31 in a little over half an hour before Dr Grace was leg-before to Hearne. Painter stayed until 74. Messrs Rice and Radcliffe were together until the 100 had been reached. The latter was then caught at wicket after a stay of two hours. Dr W G Grace and Mr Rice now became partners and, despite the excellence of the Middlesex bowling and fielding, the batsmen in the remaining three hours added 136 runs. The steady defence was occasionally relieved by some hard hits.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 August, page 7)

At Clifton College Gloucestershire had monopolized the whole of the five playing hours of Thursday in scoring 237 for the loss of three wickets. Dr W G Grace and Mr Rice were the not-outs with 72 and 64, and their partnership had already lasted three hours, yielding 136 runs.

The batsmen who had given this great trouble were quickly separated yesterday morning by Rawlin, who, with Hearne, shared the bowling. With only nine runs added Mr Rice was caught at wicket for 67. When the spectators were hoping for the completion of "WG's" 100 the home captain was taken at slip for a faultless 89, in which were six fours, three threes and 12 twos. He had played with uncommon caution and was in three and three-quarter hours. Six for 267. Messrs Ferris and Page put on 35 in half an hour, 27 coming from the latter before Mr Stoddart bowled him, but three-quarters of an hour were occupied by Roberts and Mr Ferris in adding 25 for the eighth wicket. Murch hit vigorously, and the score finally reached 353, the innings having occupied seven and a half hours.

Messrs Webbe and Stoddart obtained by splendid batting 76 for the first Middlesex wicket, but both batsmen, as well as Mr O'Brien, were out before the close of the day. The weather was fine and there was a large gathering of spectators.

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 August, page 5)

During the first two days of this match at Clifton comparatively small progress had been made. Middlesex, with three wickets down, wanted 161 to avert the follow on, and had the weather remained fine it is unlikely that time would have permitted the playing out of the match. However, rain fell with persistent heaviness on Saturday, and the game was abandoned . . .

25 August: LANCASHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3880.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 August, page 5)

There was a very large crowd, estimated to number 10,000, at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, to see the opening day's cricket in this return match. The conditions under which the game began were not of the most favourable nature; the weather was dull and cold and the wicket rather helped the bowlers, so that the prospects were for a small scoring game. Mr J S Robinson reappeared in the Nottinghamshire eleven, which was identical to that so successful against Surrey in the August match at the Oval. Mr Hornby captained the Lancastrians.

Success attended Mr Dixon's call in the toss for choice of innings, and at five minutes past 12 Mr Jones and Shrewsbury began the visitors' defence. Mold and Briggs were the early bowlers. Runs came steadily, chiefly from Mold, who gave way to Smith at 27. A dozen runs later a good ball from Briggs sent back Shrewsbury, and with Gunn on the scene Mold resumed bowling. This change in the Lancashire attack proved effective, the new batsman having his middle stump knocked down. Two for 50 was the result of three-quarters of an hour's play.

Barnes joined Mr Jones, who showed capital form, although he on one occasion ran great risk of losing his wicket by running out. Watson displaced Briggs, but the separation was effected by Mold, who at 71 dismissed Mr Jones – leg-stump. Some very vigorous batting by Flowers, who hit Mold for three fours, gave a lot of trouble to the Lancastrians, who several times varied their bowling. At a quarter to 2 there were plenty of cheers for the 100, but the applause from the home side was very loud when at 116 Barnes sent the ball into the hands of Mr Hornby at mid-on. The partnership had realized 45 runs. Shacklock came next, and at the interval the record was 122 for four wickets.

After luncheon the aspect of the game quite changed. A good return by Briggs caused the running out of Flowers at 125, and in quick succession Attewell, Daft and Mr Dixon were disposed of. Since the interval four men had been lost in half an hour for eight runs only. Eight wickets were now down for 130. Shacklock, Mr Robinson and Sherwin put a rather better look on affairs. After a brief delay through rain, however, the innings ended for 158. Mold had bowled well. The visitors' venture had extended over three hours; but after a pretty good start the collapse of the Notts batting in the afternoon came as a great surprise.

By the time that Lancashire entered upon their innings the weather had greatly improved. At 25 minutes to 5 Mr Hornby and Frank Ward began the home batting. Attewell and Shacklock were the bowlers. The former kept his usually good length and was difficult to score from, but Shacklock was hit with a little freedom. In the course of half an hour the figures reached 28, and then Mr Hornby played on. Sugg, who followed in, at once forced the game, and several changes in the bowling were tried, but it was 56 before Frank Ward left. A further stand ensued when Albert Ward and Sugg got together. Variations in the attack were again adopted, and in the last over of the day Ward fell to the bowling of Barnes, who got him out l-b-w.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 August, page 7)

Yesterday was a disastrous day for Nottinghamshire, and last evening at Old Trafford, Manchester,

they were in an unenviable position. The match itself is virtually over, and the side have irreparably lost their position at the head of the counties this season; and the championship, which seemed so tightly in their grasp after the August game with Surrey, is now out of their reach unless in some extraordinary way they can beat Lancashire to-day. Over 8,000 people visited the ground yesterday.

Lancashire, who had lost three wickets for 73, resumed batting at 20 minutes to 12, Sugg and Smith being opposed by Shacklock and Attewell. Various bowling changes were adopted, but Sugg completed his 50, and at the same time the 100 appeared on the board. Three runs later, however, he was bowled for an excellent 54, made in an hour and a half by six fours, three threes, six twos and singles. Briggs ran himself out at 119, after which came a spell of purely defensive play by Smith and Baker. The former was bowled at 156 for 12 runs, which had occupied nearly two hours.

Mr Crosfield and Baker were together an hour, during which 87 runs were put on, but the amateur gave a sharp chance to Shrewsbury at point when only 11. Baker left at 243, caught at point; he was in two and a quarter hours for his 66, in which were seven fours, a three and 12 twos. Subsequently Mr Crosfield received some assistance from Watson and remained not out for 50. The innings closed at 20 minutes to 5 for 277, which gave Lancashire a lead of 119.

Against the bowling of Mold and Watson Notts made a dreadful start. Shrewsbury played on, first ball, and Mr Jones was out in the same way when only six runs had been scored. The visitors' misfortunes did not end here, for Gunn and Barnes were out in an over from Mold, and the first half-hour saw four of the best Notts wickets fall for 11 runs. Daft was soon stumped and Mr Dixon bowled, and at the end of the day Notts, with only four wickets in hand, wanted 101 to avoid an innings defeat. Mold dismissed five of the batsmen at a cost of nine runs.

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 August, page 5)

At Old Trafford, Manchester, on Saturday, the Nottinghamshire eleven sustained their second reverse of the season. Every hope that their friends possessed of the championship honours going to Nottingham must now be given up. On Friday night the position of Notts at Old Trafford was hopeless, but at one period on Saturday the weather seemed likely to befriend them. Rain fell steadily during the morning, but it left off sufficiently soon for a start to be made at 3 o'clock.

The visitors, with six men out in their second innings for 18 runs, required 101 to avoid the single innings defeat. Flowers and Mr Robinson, the not-outs, were opposed by Mold and Watson. Flowers sent the ball into the hands of Mr Crosfield, Mr Robinson was caught at wicket and Attewell stumped. These three batsmen had been disposed of for an addition of nine runs. Shacklock and Sherwin gave some trouble for the last partnership, which yielded 23. Had it lasted a few minutes longer the match could not have been finished, for the players had scarcely retired when rain descended in torrents and further cricket would have been impossible. Lancashire won by an innings and 69 runs.

The victory was largely due to the effective fast bowling and fielding of Mold. His second analysis was seven for 29, and in the match he took 12 wickets for 100 runs. Lancashire played a fine game throughout.

25 August: SOMERSET v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3881.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 August, page 5)

The recent successes of the Somerset eleven have created much enthusiasm throughout the West of England, and the visit of the Yorkshire team to Taunton yesterday caused a large company of spectators to assemble. Somerset, it may be noted, won the first of their matches with Yorkshire. The weather was fine and the wicket, although slow at first, steadily improved. Lord Hawke and David Hunter, the wicket-keeper, were absent from the visiting team, but the home side were as powerful as usual.

Yorkshire, who had won the toss, sent in Messrs Jackson and Smith, and the bowling was shared by Tyler and Nichols. Both batsmen were in good form. Although Mr Hedley relieved Nichols, 50 runs were made in 40 minutes, and 20 more were added in the next ten minutes. After further alterations in the attack, Tyler went on again and with his second ball he clean bowled Mr Smith. Eighty-three had been scored in less than an hour, and Mr Smith's 45 included seven fours, four threes and a two. Then followed another stand by Tunnicliffe and Mr Jackson. The 100 went up at a quarter past 1, but 16 runs later a good piece of fielding by Mr Hedley caused Mr Jackson to be run out; in his excellent 55 there were seven fours, a three and two twos. At 148 Tunnicliffe was out, while 13 runs later Ulyett was dismissed. At luncheon the record was 161 for four.

Peel and Mr Sellers were together some little time after the interval, when Mr Newton, having injured his hands, gave up the post of wicket-keeper to Mr Palaret. Tyler and Mr Hedley were the bowlers. At 183 Mr Sellers was caught at point by the Somerset captain, who took the ball close to the ground with his left hand. Peel and Wainwright batted steadily, and in spite of Somerset's good bowling and fielding their partnership lasted rather more than an hour, during which 60 runs were put on. Wainwright was well stumped by Mr Palaret at 243, and 27 runs later Peel was cleverly caught at slip. Quickly afterwards Wardall was dismissed by a running catch in the long field, and the innings was rapidly completed for 299. It had lasted four hours and a quarter.

Somerset went in at a quarter past 5, and Messrs Hewett and Palaret made a brilliant beginning. Mr Jackson and Peel, the bowlers, were both severely punished. The 50 was reached in 35 minutes, and although the bowling was changed, the batsmen at the finish had scored 78 in three-quarters of an hour. Mr Palaret, at 28, gave a chance at wicket . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 August, page 7)

The many brilliant achievements of Somerset were totally eclipsed yesterday by their batting in this match on the Taunton ground. The record – 283 – for the first wicket in important cricket was well beaten by Messrs Hewett and Palaret. This record had stood for 23 years, having been made by Dr W G Grace and Mr B B Cooper, in 1869, at the Oval, for Gentlemen of the South v Players. The partnership yesterday amounted to 346 runs and occupied only three and a half hours; three individual innings of three figures were made and the aggregate of 592 is the highest of the season.

On Thursday Yorkshire were dismissed for 299, and Messrs Hewett and Palaret had scored 78. Yesterday the weather was very fine and the wicket in excellent order. Both batsmen scored at a great rate and the 100 went up at 11.35, while the next 50 were scored in 25 minutes. Mr Hewett

reached his 100 in two hours, and before long Mr Palairet, on completion of his century, was greeted with loud applause. Yorkshire fielded well, but their bowlers seemed to be helpless and boundary hits followed each other with startling rapidity. At 20 minutes past 1 the record for the first wicket was beaten, and soon afterwards another loud burst of applause noted the fact that the Yorkshire total had been passed. Mr Hewett, when within 11 runs of his second hundred, might have been caught at square-leg by Brown, but, profiting by this escape, he quickly ran to 201, and then the great stand ended; the Somerset captain, in trying to drive, missed the ball and was bowled by Peel. The only chance in this wonderful innings was that just noted. As already mentioned, the total at the fall of the first wicket was 346. Mr Hewett hit 30 fours, three threes and 15 twos. This is his greatest achievement in first-class cricket.

Peel speedily sent back Mr Challen, while at 372 Mr Palairet was dismissed by a fine right-handed catch, low down at slip; he gave a chance to the wicket-keeper on Thursday night, but this was his solitary mistake. During his stay of three hours and 50 minutes he made one six, 19 fours, five threes and six twos. Three for 372.

The Yorkshire bowling came in for further punishment during the hour's partnership off Messrs Hill and Hedley, who added 97 runs. Mr Hill was caught in the long-field, and this, too, was the fate of Mr Woods, who stayed until 531. The fifth 100 appeared after five and a half hours' play. Mr Hedley, who was caught at mid-off at 569, made his 102 in two and a half hours by ten fours, four threes, seven twos &c. Nichols fell to long-off, Mr Robinson was stumped, and with the disposal of Tyler the remarkable innings ended at ten minutes to 6. Peel's analysis came out well in the circumstances, while the fielding was characterized by several fine catches. To-day Yorkshire will have to make 293 to avoid a single innings defeat.

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 August, page 5)

Somerset met with a piece of ill-fortune at Taunton on Saturday. The rain fell heavily and caused the game to be drawn. It was not until half-past 4 that all hope of play was given up.

25 August: SURREY v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3882.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 August, page 5)

For various reasons much interest is felt in this contest, which began at Kennington Oval yesterday. Surrey v Kent has always been a popular fixture; but this was Surrey's last county match, and cricketers are anxious as to its bearing on the championship. Mr Shuter captained the same players who fared so well in the last three games, while Mr Patterson led into the field a strong Kent team – indeed, the only absentee of note was Mr L Wilson. The company present numbered about 8,000.

Choice of innings fell to the home side, and on a slow pitch Surrey batted first. Abel and Baldwin started to W Hearne and Walter Wright; Baldwin left at 10 and Abel two runs later – both bowled. Two for 12. Henderson now joined Maurice Read, who had scored only six when Mr Kemp missed him at wicket. The figures, however, were not far advanced when a good catch at slip sent back Henderson. The two Reads were associated while 18 runs were added, and then Maurice was also secured at slip. Four for 63. Lockwood arrived and the hitting became lively. Martin and A Hearne took up the bowling at 87, but the partnership was intact at the luncheon interval, when 104 had been scored in an hour and 50 minutes.

With nine runs obtained after the interval, Mr Walter Read skied the ball to mid-off. Fifty runs had been put on in the hour that Mr Read and Lockwood had been together. Five for 113. When Mr Shuter joined Lockwood a blunder by W Hearne in being unprepared for a return from the long field enabled the professional to escape being run out. Then came an incident which aroused a discussion among the players. Lockwood had driven the ball loftily and, thinking it was going to the boundary, did not start beyond the few paces which he had stepped forward to make the hit. Mr Shuter ran up to him, but meanwhile the ball had been well fielded by Mr Stewart, and seeing this Mr Shuter went back to his own wicket. The question arose as to whether a run had been scored, and the umpires eventually ruled it “a two, but one short.” From the next ball Lockwood was well caught in the long field by Mr Patterson.

Lohmann aided his captain, and very soon occurred an expensive error in the Kent field; Mr Stewart, at slop, failed to hold a sharp chance from Mr Shuter. After a spell of quietude the Surrey captain began to force the game, and one of his strokes to the leg boundary elicited loud cheers. Martin relieved W Hearne at 152, but at 160 a sharp shower caused a delay for a quarter of an hour, and only two other overs had been sent down when there was another 20 minutes' interruption. At 4.40 Martin and Wright had charge of the bowling, and at 165 Martin got Lohmann caught by slip, while 14 runs later Mr Shuter played on; the Surrey captain had scored his 42 in an hour and ten minutes by six fours, three threes, a two and ten singles. Eight for 179. Wood was finely caught at slip, but Brockwell and Richardson made a stand, the former contributing several fine hits. There were loud cheers for a second hundred, which appeared at a few minutes past 5. Eleven more were added before the bowling of Brockwell terminated the innings. The Kent fielding had been very good, and the four catches by Alec Hearne at slip furnished a feature of the days' cricket.

Kent went in for rather less than three-quarters of an hour. Mr Marchant and Alec Hearne opposed the bowling of Lohmann and Lockwood. The weather was now very fine, but the light perhaps a little too glaring for precise fielding and batting. Twenty-eight were quickly secured, and then Mr Marchant was caught by the wicket-keeper standing back. George Hearne came next. A Hearne cut a ball hard to Lockwood at cover-point, but the fieldsman failed to make the catch. At 44,

which had been reached in 35 minutes, Richardson superseded Lockwood. This change speedily worked, Abel at short slip dismissing G G Hearne. W Hearne was quickly out, and then stumps were drawn a quarter of an hour earlier than usual. Kent, with seven wickets in hand, want 87 more runs to save the follow-on.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 August, page 7)

Within a few minutes of the time for drawing stumps at the Oval last evening Surrey decisively beat Kent. This result, together with the successes of the Lancashire bowlers against Nottinghamshire, threw the crowd into a high state of enthusiasm. On Thursday evening Kent, with seven batsmen in hand, wanted only 87 to avert the follow-on. But the Surrey bowlers and the fieldsmen let no opportunities escape, and the bowling made it exceedingly difficult to get runs. An enthusiastic crowd, ranging from eight to ten thousand persons, assembled.

At 20 minutes past 11 A Hearne, the not-out with 21, and Mr Stewart continued the innings of the visitors to the bowling of Lohmann and Lockwood. The score had only reached 46 when A Hearne was bowled in Lohmann's second over, while Mr Patterson was stumped at 56. Messrs Weigall and Stewart were caught at wicket at 70 and 72, Wright was run out at 73, and at 77 the ninth wicket fell, Mr Kemp being bowled. Mr Le Fleming and Martin made a stand for the last wicket. While they stayed the cricket became quite lively and there were a number of excellent hits. Richardson displaced Lockwood at 98, but Mr Le Fleming, with a three to leg, entered up the 100 at 12.35. A single later he cut the ball into the hands of point, and the Kent innings, which had lasted a little over two hours, ended for 101.

Kent were thus 110 behind, and they had to follow on. During the first half-hour runs came at a fast pace from Mr Marchant and Alec Hearne. Lohmann and Lockwood shared the bowling. Many runs were scored off Lockwood, and a single by Mr Marchant was increased to five by an overthrow. The amateur next cut Lohmann twice to the boundary, and at 29 Abel went on at the gasometer end and Lohmann crossed over. The 50 was hoisted after 28 minutes' play. With a single only added Mr Marchant was secured by the wicket-keeper standing back. His 35 had been obtained in a free and brilliant style.

Mr Stewart came next, but he was soon hurt by a ball from Lockwood, and Mr Marchant went out to run for him. Mr Stewart obtained four by a leg hit, but at 77 he fell to a good catch at extra slip. Mr Patterson was secured at slip, the ball having escaped the wicket-keeper, who just touched it. Three for 82. Mr Le Fleming joined A Hearne, who obtained a couple of fours from Lockwood, and the 100 went up. Richardson superseded Lockwood at 106, but Mr Le Fleming cut him to the boundary, and then had a single increased to a five by an overthrow. When it seemed probable that Kent would make a very good score A Hearne played on. He had been in an hour and a half for 40, in which were three fours, a three and seven twos.

After Mr Le Fleming had made three fours (two by cuts) from Richardson he lost the assistance of Mr Weigall – caught at slip – while he himself was out at 143. G G Hearne had cut the ball to Mr Read, by whom it was misfielded, and so passed on to Mr Shuter at cover-point, who returned it well, and Mr Le Fleming was run out. Six for 143. Wright was next in, but he left at 157; a catch at extra slip sent back Martin at 168, and at 173 G G and W Hearne were out, the innings ending at 4.35.

Surrey wanted 64 to win, and Baldwin and Mr W W Read began the task at 5 o'clock. Wright and

W Hearne were the bowlers. The play was very quiet, and a couple of boundary drives by Mr Read were all that came to elicit the applause of the company. Martin and A Hearne took up the attack at 41, and subsequently Mr Patterson's lobs were brought into requisition. But still the batting was cautious, and it was a few minutes after 6 o'clock before Mr Read with a couple to leg won the match for Surrey by ten wickets.

25 August: ESSEX v LEICESTERSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/125/125280.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 August, page 5)

The return match between these counties began yesterday at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton. Essex had first innings, but with three exceptions the batsmen made little headway against the bowling of Pougher, whose eight wickets were obtained at a cost of 48 runs in 30 overs (17 maidens). Rain stopped play for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 27 August, page 7)

At the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday, a capital day's cricket was witnessed in this match. In consequence of rain on Thursday the play had been limited to the Essex innings of 127.

Leicestershire lost three wickets for 42; but Holland and Pougher put on 108 for the fourth wicket, which fell at 150. The remaining six added only 28 runs, the bowling of Mr Kortright, who took eight wickets for 45 runs, being very effective. Essex went in again with arrears of 51 . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 August, page 5)

This match was drawn at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, on Saturday. Essex, who were 51 behind on the first innings, showed a great improvement at their second attempt. The longest partnership was that of Burns and Mr Hailey, who raised the figures from 76 to 171. The amateur was then bowled, but Mr Kortright helped Burns considerably, and when the sixth wicket fell the score was 204.

At this point the weather became very bad and, as cricket was impracticable during the afternoon, the match was drawn. Burns' chief items in a capital 61 made in two hours were five fours, three threes and six twos. Essex with four batsmen in hand were 153 ahead.

The leading county matches will be finished this week, but the first two positions are now definitely known, and Surrey is once more at the head. Notts lost their chances of sharing with Surrey the first place by their defeat at Old Trafford. The table of results up to the present is appended:-

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Surrey	16	13	2	1	11
Notts	15	10	2	3	8
Somerset	14	8	5	1	3
Lancashire	16	7	5	4	2
Middlesex	15	6	6	3	0
Yorkshire	16	5	5	6	0
Gloucestershire	15	1	8	6	-7
Kent	15	2	9	4	-7
Sussex	14	1	11	2	-10

Positions are secured by subtracting losses from wins.

29 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3884.html)

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

In consequence of heavy rain yesterday the start of this match at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, was postponed until to-day.

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

Play in this match began yesterday on the Trent-bridge Ground in fine but boisterous weather, and with the wicket slow. Kent had first innings, and at 11.50 Mr Stewart and A Hearne opened the defence.

In the course of 40 minutes 21 runs were scored from Shacklock and Attewell, and then the latter in successive overs sent back Messrs Stewart and Weigall. Mr Patterson joined A Hearne, who took an hour to make his first five runs. The cricket ruled quiet, the monotony of the cautious defence being occasionally broken by a good stroke from Mr Patterson. Various bowling changes were tried, but the 50 went up at 1.25. Eventually A Hearne fell to a catch at third man; he was in an hour and a half for 12. A good return catch quickly disposed of Mr Rashleigh, after which G G Hearne joined Mr Patterson. Some sharp running infused considerable life into the play, and at luncheon the figures were 80 for four wickets.

On play being resumed the game went steadily against Kent. Their captain was taken at the wicket for an excellent 42, made in an hour and a half, and although 109 had gone up with only five men out the innings closed for 113. Wright and Mr Malden were bowled, Martin cut the ball into the hands of point, Mr Kemp was thrown out by Gunn and W Hearne was bowled. The last three men went at the same total. As Notts were on the point of going in rain fell heavily and there was no more cricket.

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

There was more rain in Nottingham on Tuesday night and yesterday morning, and eventually this match was abandoned . . .

29 August: SOMERSET v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3885.html)

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

There was a continuation of the heavy rain in the West of England yesterday, and at Taunton it was quite impossible to begin this return match.

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

Both counties were well represented at Taunton yesterday when a start was made in this match. The weather proved showery, and the various delays limited the cricket to a couple of hours or so; indeed, the conditions were altogether unfavourable, for the turf had recovered only slightly from the heavy rains which had fallen during the last few days.

Gloucestershire won the toss and took first innings, Dr E M Grace and Mr Radcliffe going in at a quarter to 12 to the bowling of the home professionals. Mr Play kept wicket. Mr Radcliffe was speedily caught in the long field, and the figures were only 7 when Painter fell to a catch in the slips. When Mr Rice arrived rain came on and caused a delay of nearly half an hour. Subsequently Dr E M Grace was dismissed, but Dr W G Grace and Mr Rice made a stand, 38 being obtained in 35 minutes before Mr Palaret stumped Dr Grace. Four for 50. Mr Rice quickly afterwards fell to slip, and at luncheon time the record was 64 for five.

Rain caused a delay, and it was 5 o'clock before further cricket was possible. Mr Ferris made some good hits, but the bowling and fielding were excellent, and at the close of the day the score was 96 for nine. There was a fair muster of spectators. It may be noted that Tyler, by taking four wickets yesterday, raises his aggregate for the season to 100, while Dr W G Grace is now within ten of his 1,000 runs in first-class cricket.

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

Rain completely spoilt this match. There was no play at Taunton on Monday, and on Tuesday the cricket was limited to comparatively a brief time . . .

29 August: SUSSEX v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3886.html)

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

There was a large attendance at the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday. With neither Mr Nepean nor Mr Jardine available, Mr Webbe fell back upon the services of Mr J H Roberts, a familiar figure in Rugby Union football. Sussex also were well represented.

More rain fell in Brighton early in the morning and when Middlesex went in the wicket was very soft. [Messrs] Webbe and Stoddart opened the innings, and Sussex intrusted their bowling to Tate and Bean. Mr Stoddart opened his account with a beautiful drive from Tate to the boundary, following which were a couple of threes from the other end. Guttridge displaced Bean at 23, a change that was attended with immediate success, as the first ball the visitors' captain sent gently into the hands of mid-on. With Mr Scott in some fine batting was shown by Mr Stoddart, whose biggest strokes were a four to square leg and a drive, both from Tate, but just before the 50 went up at 1 o'clock Guttridge had a sharp return chance from him.

Mr Scott remained on the defence while his companion did all the hitting, a state of things that existed until 70 was reached. Then Hide, who had taken up the bowling at 57, sent back Mr Stoddart; this batsman had made 43 in 55 minutes by five fours, three threes, four twos &c. During the next 20 minutes Sussex had a spell of good fortune: Mr O'Brien was out from a lofty drive, Mr Somerset making a good catch at long-on, and at 81 Mr Scott, who had been in three-quarters of an hour for eight runs, was cleverly caught and bowled.

Four for 81 and most of the leading men gone did not promise any very big score for Middlesex. But Mr Henery found an able partner in Phillips. The amateur at once settled down to play vigorously and made many fine strokes. Early in his innings, however, a blunder between Hide, at mid-on, and Tate, the bowler, enabled him to escape being run out. Although Hide and Guttridge were tried at the Marine end the 100 went up at ten minutes to 2, and at the interval the figures were 116, Mr Henery, 32 not out.

On the renewal at 2.50, Tate and Hide were the bowlers. Phillips did not long survive an escape at mid-off, as at 136 he was well caught in the long field, while with Rawlin bowled first ball six of the visitors had been dismissed for 136. Mr M'Gregor was next in, and he promptly hit Tate to the square-leg boundary, and runs came so quickly that the attack was soon given to Mr Brann and Humphreys. Thirty-eight had been added in 25 minutes when Guttridge executed a brilliant feat in fielding by throwing out Mr M'Gregor from mid-off; the batsmen had started for what seemed an easy run.

Mr Ford quickly succumbed to a lob from Humphreys, but when Mr Roberts arrived there were a couple of bad mistakes in the Sussex field. Having made 69 Mr Henery sent a ball from Humphreys direct to the hands of Mr Brann at forward short leg. The catch was not made, while in the same over the batsman also skied the ball between mid-on and the bowler, where Mr Brann and Humphreys between them managed to miss it. Then was seen fine hitting by Mr Roberts, who turned the 22 minutes of his stay to most profitable account. The 200 went up at 4 o'clock, and in quick succession Mr Roberts made four fine drives for four each, the ball in one instance pitching over the ring, between the Press and telegraph boxes. Mr Roberts, having scored 35 out of 49, was easily caught at slip; he made five fours. Hearne gave little trouble and by a quarter past 4 the

innings, which had lasted rather more than three hours, ended for 228. Mr Henery, in spite of the errors already noted, had given an excellent display of fine, vigorous cricket. He ran up his 81 in a couple of hours, and included in his innings were seven fours, two threes and 14 twos.

Bean and Mr Heasman opened the Sussex batting in lively fashion. The latter cut and drove Hearne to the boundary, and also cut Rawlin for four. Twenty-three were obtained in a quarter of an hour, and then Bean was caught in the long field, Mr Roberts making a well-judged catch. Mr Newman was bowled by a “yorker” from Rawlin, and the next ball sent back Mr Brann. All the first three wickets fell at 23. Marlow and Mr Heasman were together some time, but at 43 Mr Heasman was bowled. Jesse Hide and Marlow were partners when the 50 went up within an hour of the start. Six runs later rain stopped play and shortly before 6 o’clock stumps were drawn . . .

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

The opening day’s cricket in this match at the Hove-ground, Brighton, gave a pretty clear indication of what would follow, for Middlesex, going in first on a soft wicket, made 228, while the home side lost four good batsmen for 56. It was extremely unlikely that the pitch would get better, and yesterday this was confirmed, unfortunately for Sussex, whose eleven offered a very feeble resistance to the visitors’ bowlers – Rawlin and Hearne, who had charge of the attack at the renewal of the game.

Hide and Marlow, the not-outs, were quickly separated, the latter falling to a catch at slip when only nine runs had been added. Guttridge came in, but the Sussex disasters followed upon each other with great rapidity. Rawlin captured Hide at 78, and a couple of runs later Guttridge returned the ball and Tate was taken in the slips. Mr Somerset left at 81, after which Butt and Humphreys strove to improve the state of affairs for their side. Seventeen were obtained, and then the bowling of Humphreys terminated the innings, which had lasted about two hours, for 98. Rawlin and Hearne, who had bowled unchanged, divided the wickets equally.

Sussex were 130 behind, and they followed on shortly before 1 o’clock. The Middlesex bowling was again in the hands of Rawlin and Hearne, while Mr Newham adhered to his original order of batting. The start savoured of a severe defeat; Bean was well caught in the long-field and Hearne held a return catch from Mr Heasman, the two wickets falling for 16 runs. Messrs Newham and Brann advanced the record to 24, and then the former returned the ball, while previous to the adjournment for luncheon Marlow gave Mr Stoddart a catch at mid-off.

After the interval there was no break in the spell of ill-fortune for Sussex. Nothing had been added to the 44 when Hearne bowled both Hide and Guttridge. Messrs Somerset and Brann were partners while 21 were added, after which Mr Brann was bowled. Seven for 65. The three outstanding wickets fell for another 22 runs – thus, Tate run-out, Mr Somerset bowled and Butt caught at extra mid-off. Hearne got a wonderful break on the ball, and his seven wickets for 36 gave him a record in the match of 12 for 91. Middlesex won by an innings and 43 runs.

29 August: YORKSHIRE v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3887.html)

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

At Scarborough yesterday rain fell heavily all the morning and the opening day of the Festival – Marylebone Club and Ground v Yorkshire – could not be proceeded with.

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

With improved weather yesterday the MCC and Yorkshire teams were able to begin their match, which inaugurated the festival annually held at Scarborough. A strong wind swept over the ground, and although this was not very pleasant for the spectators it had a beneficial effect on the turf. There were several thousand spectators of what proved to be a thoroughly good day's play.

Going in first at 20 minutes past 12 the county did not start promisingly against the bowling of Mr Spofforth and Pougher. With his second ball the famous Australian dismissed Mr Ernest Smith before a run had been scored, while in his next over he got out the Cambridge captain. Tunncliffe and Mr Sellers made a good stand. Runs came rapidly, chiefly from Pougher, and although Davidson went on the change failed to check the rapidity of the scoring. After a shower, however, Burns was given a trial and met with plenty of success. At 74 he bowled Mr Sellers, who had helped to add 71 for the third partnership, and at 78 and 81 Peel, Tunncliffe and Ulyett fell to him, and up to this point he had taken four wickets for eight runs. Six for 81.

Then followed another stand by Wainwright and Brown. In consequence of an injury Mr Murdoch gave up the wicket-keeping gloves to Mr Vernon. By luncheon time the score had reached 109, and afterwards, under the influence of Brown's vigorous play, it advanced at a great rate. One of Brown's best strokes was a cut for five from Mr Spofforth. At 151 Mr Spofforth bowled Wainwright, and 23 runs later Moorhouse was cleverly caught at mid-off. Hirst batted freely until caught at wicket at 204, and finally the innings closed for 208 at ten minutes past 4. Brown was not out for 65, the result of an hour and a quarter's cricket, and his principal contributions were nine fours, two threes and three twos.

Messrs Thornton and De Trafford began the Marylebone innings at half-past 4. Peel and Hirst were the bowlers. Mr de Trafford made 12 out of 16 and was then dismissed, but with Mr Murdoch in Mr Thornton scored ten by two drives, the ball in the second instance from Peel pitching out of the ground. Fifty runs having been obtained in half an hour, Mr Thornton was taken at cover-point. The visitors now fared badly: Chatterton cut the ball into the hands of point, Mr Murdoch and Davidson were stumped, Mr Lacey was bowled and Burns caught at cover-point. Seven for 76.

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

Yesterday morning this match was resumed on a slow wicket, that steadily dried under the influence of a strong wind. Marylebone, who having dismissed their opponents for 208, had lost seven batsmen for 76 runs, resumed their innings shortly after 12 o'clock, Pougher and Mr Vernon facing the attacks of Peel and Wainwright.

Mr Vernon severely punished the former, whom he twice cut and drove for four each, and 23 runs had been obtained in ten minutes when Pougher fell to a catch at short slip. With Mr Hornsby on the scene the 100 was reached, but four runs later a ball from Wainwright found its way into Mr Vernon's wicket. Nine men were now lost for 104, and 25 runs were yet wanted to avert the follow on. Messrs Spofforth and Hornsby made strenuous efforts to achieve this task. Mr Hornsby scored ten by two drives, the ball in one instance pitching out of the ground, and only three runs were necessary to save the follow when Mr Spofforth was finely taken in the long field, the innings closing at 20 minutes to 1 for 126, or 82 behind.

Messrs Murdoch and De Trafford began Marylebone's second venture, the bowling again being shared by Peel and Wainwright. During a brief stay Mr De Trafford made the most of his opportunities; his driving was very powerful, and he had scored 29 out of 31 when Peel got him caught almost on the boundary. A striking contrast to this fine hitting was next seen in the partnership of Chatterton and Mr Murdoch, who played with great steadiness. At 38 the professional was caught in the slips and Mr Murdoch at cover-point. Burns and Davidson were next together, but after luncheon the latter played under a ball which went into slip's hands, and four wickets were down for 49.

Mr Lacey, the next in, batted carefully, while his companion threw plenty of vigour into the game and, although the bowling underwent variation, the record was 80 before Mr Lacey was bowled. It should have been noted that when 26 Burns gave a chance to Peel at cover point off Mr Jackson. This proved a serious mistake, for Burns continued to score freely. Pougher, who escaped in the slips, remained until 105, after which there was some particularly attractive batting by Mr Thornton and Burns. The former should have been caught at mid-off, and he then followed up his good fortune by driving a ball from Peel for six. However, at 146 he was well caught in the deep field; he had made 30 out of 41 added during his stay.

Subsequently Mr Vernon and Burns obtained runs at a great pace, and each sent the ball out of the ground. At length at 189 Burns was caught at slip for 79; he had shown fine free hitting powers and in the two hours contributed a six, 11 fours, three threes, four twos and 12 singles. He gave two chances. Mr Hornsby and Mr Vernon continued the rapid scoring for some time longer, but there were more mistakes in the Yorkshire field. Eventually catches at slip and cover point got rid of Messrs Vernon and Spofforth, and the innings closed shortly after 5 o'clock for 224.

Yorkshire, who had thrown away their chances of success by bad fielding, went in a second time for 35 minutes. Mr Smith was caught and bowled at 19, and at 35 Wainwright returned the ball. Peel and Tunnicliffe then played out time and the game was drawn. The weather kept fine and there was a large company.

Wednesday 31 August, page 8: PRESENTATION TO THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ELEVEN

Yesterday afternoon, in the pavilion at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, Mr J A Dixon, the captain of the eleven, and Mr A O Jones and Mr J S Robinson were presented with medals, and each of the professionals with a cheque for 20 guineas, in recognition of their victory over Surrey at Kennington Oval. This was the result of the public fund which had been raised in Nottingham to commemorate the victory.

Captain Oates, in making the presentation, exhorted the cricketers to play for their county in every manner possible, and not for their averages. Mr Dixon, in reply, said that the cause of their recent losses was that their rivals played the batter cricket.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY CLUB

At a meeting of the committee yesterday, it was decided to bring to the notice of the Marylebone Club the desirableness of amending the "closure" rule, so that a side might close its innings on the second day of a match.

It was also decided to give Shrewsbury a benefit match next season, and should the Australians come over it was thought that "England v Australia" might be an appropriate fixture. It is understood that the Marylebone Club will give Sherwin a benefit match next year at Lord's, and "Nottinghamshire v an eleven of Nottinghamshire born men playing for other counties" is suggested as the title.

Thursday 1 September, page 8: THE COUNTIES

To-day at Brighton the last inter-county match of the season begins. The positions up to the present are thus:-

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Surrey	16	13	2	1	11
Notts	16	10	2	4	6
Somerset	15	8	5	2	3
Lancashire	16	7	5	4	2
Middlesex	16	7	6	3	1
Yorkshire	16	5	5	6	0
Gloucestershire	16	1	8	7	-7
Kent	16	2	9	5	-7
Sussex	15	1	12	2	-11

Positions are secured by subtracting losses from wins.

1 September: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3888.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 September, page 5)

This proved a very attractive second match for the Festival at Scarborough. Unfortunately the weather was still unsettled, but the rain in the early morning ceased and the day's cricket was very interesting.

Having won the toss Gunn decided to take first innings, and at 12.20 Abel and Chatterton were deputed to begin the batting on the part of the professionals. The two Australians – Messrs Spofforth and Ferris – shared the bowling. It was not a good beginning for the Players: Abel fell to Mr de Trafford at cover-point and Gunn was caught at wicket, and thus two men were out for 15. But the appearance of Maurice Read heralded an improvement. The Surrey batsman hit vigorously, while Chatterton showed his usual steadiness, scoring only a single in the first 35 minutes of his stay. Presently, however, he cut Mr Spofforth for four, while from the same bowler Read made eight by three drives. Chatterton hit Mr Spofforth to square-leg for four, but his companion did most of the scoring. The 50 went up at 1.20, and then Mr Ferris handed the ball to Mr Jackson. Read obtained 12 by three boundary drives from Mr Spofforth, and the figures stood at 64 when rain stopped the game for 20 minutes. On resuming Messrs Jackson and Spofforth again had charge of the bowling, but this was soon altered, and Mr Stoddart went on at 75. However, Maurice Read completed his 50, and at the interval the record was 87 for two wickets.

After luncheon a light rain caused a delay for a few minutes. Messrs Smith and Ferris then conducted the attack, and from the latter Chatterton only just escaped a return catch. The register travelled slowly to 99, at which point the game turned favourably for the Gentlemen. From successive balls Maurice Read was caught at cover-point and Chatterton bowled. In the 70 minutes of the partnership 84 runs had been put on, and 66 of these were credited to Read, who batted vigorously, making 12 fours, six twos and six singles.

Lockwood stayed with Barnes until the 100 had gone up and then fell to a catch at mid-off, following which came a stand by Barnes and Wainwright, who put on 42 for the sixth partnership. In the course of a few overs Barnes and Wainwright were caught at wicket and Lohmann was leg-before, eight men being out for 159. It may be mentioned that the first five batsmen fell to Mr Ferris's bowling at a cost of 35 runs. Attewell and Peel next gave a great deal of trouble, and the attack was changed at both ends. Messrs W W Read and Spofforth, who had gone on during the stay of Barnes and Wainwright, gave way to Messrs Ferris and Smith, while at 193 the former retired in favour of Mr Jackson. The second 100 appeared at 5 o'clock, but four runs later Peel was dismissed. Wood aided Attewell, who twice cut Mr Smith to the boundary, and Messrs Ferris and Spofforth resumed. Eventually Wood was caught in the slips, and Attewell remained not out; total, 238, time 5.25.

Messrs Ferris and de Trafford began the Gentlemen's innings to the bowling of Lohmann and Lockwood, and no wicket fell in the brief time that remained for play. There was a large company present.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 3 September, page 10)

The ground was visited by a very large company yesterday, when, after a good deal of rain in the morning, the day became fine. Messrs de Trafford and Ferris, who had begun the Gentlemen's innings on Thursday evening and had scored nine runs, resumed batting shortly after 12 o'clock. Lohmann and Lockwood were the bowlers.

The latter speedily disposed of Mr de Trafford, and Mr Stoddart arrived to the assistance of Mr Ferris, and the batting became more lively during their brief partnership. Mr Ferris secured three by a cut, while his companion drove Lohmann to the boundary and hit the other bowler to square leg for four. However, at 25 a catch in the slips disposed of Mr Stoddart, and four runs later Mr W W Read sent the ball into the hands of third man. Then followed some careful defence play by Messrs Murdoch and Ferris; but the latter, when only 13, gave a sharp chance to Attewell at mid-off. The figures having been slowly advanced to 42, Mr Murdoch was bowled, and Mr Smith joined Mr Ferris, whom Attewell soon afterwards again missed. As the batsmen played with plenty of confidence, a variation in the attack took place, Peel relieving Lohmann; but the wicket came from the other end, Mr Smith being caught by the wicket-keeper from a skier. Mr Jackson helped to add 17 and then played on, making six wickets down for 80.

It now seemed probable that the amateurs would have to follow on, as they were still 158 behind. However, Mr O'Brien played very well, and after luncheon the batsmen scored freely from Lockwood, who with Peel then shared the attack. With 116 recorded a fine catch low down at third man disposed of Mr O'Brien. Mr Lacey came next, and still 43 were necessary to prevent following the innings. Runs came steadily. Mr Ferris completed his 50 at half-past 3, and some 20 minutes later, after he had narrowly escaped giving Lohmann a return catch, the follow on was saved amid loud cheers from the spectators. The bowling had been taken up by Lohmann and Wainwright, but Lockwood resumed and got Mr Lacey caught by the wicket-keeper; 46 runs were the result of his stay. Lockwood quickly sent back Messrs M'Gregor and Spofforth, and his analysis came out excellently. Mr Ferris carried his bat through the innings for 62. He was in three and a quarter hours, and his chief hits were three fours, five threes and nine twos.

The Players possessed a lead of 68, and they entered upon their second venture at a quarter to 5. Chatterton and Maurice Read were opposed by Messrs Ferris and Spofforth. As runs were obtained at a brisk rate, Messrs Smith and Jackson soon went on to bowl, while subsequently Mr Stoddart was tried and Mr Ferris resumed. The 50 was reached in less than an hour, but four runs later Read was stumped. Gunn joined Chatterton and the pair played out time.

Day 3 (report from Monday 5 September, page 5)

Stormy weather prevailed at Scarborough on Saturday, and after the game had been interrupted once or twice the rain fell in such torrents as to necessitate an abandonment. On Friday evening the Players, with a lead of 68, had entered upon their second innings, and Gunn and Chatterton were together with the score at 61 for one wicket.

Cricket was resumed at a quarter past 12, the bowlers being Messrs Spofforth and Ferris. Gunn, after being caught from a no-ball, drove the former twice for four, and Chatterton started in a manner unusually free for him. Twenty-five were added in 20 minutes, and then Mr Walter Read's lobs were tried and Mr Smith superseded Mr Spofforth. The second of these variations proved very successful. At 93 Chatterton's capital innings was closed by Mr Smith bowling him, and then Abel was dismissed. Lockwood was next in. Gunn, with a drive for four, brought up the 100, but a few minutes later he sent the ball hard back to Mr Read, who, in trying to stop it, hurt his wrist so badly

that he had to retire from the game. Shortly after 1 o'clock a shower stopped play for ten minutes.

Messrs Smith and Ferris now shared the attack, and the former soon bowled Lockwood, while at 110 he also dismissed Gunn. Wainwright fell to a good catch at cover-slip, where Lohmann was fielding as substitute, and six of the side were thus out for 122. Barnes and peel batted steadily and raised the score to 139 before luncheon. At 3 o'clock the bowlers were again Messrs Smith and Ferris. The former bowled Barnes, and Peel was caught at cover-point. Lohmann and Attewell were now together, and by some good hitting they advanced the score to 157. Then came another delay through rain. On resuming Mr Ferris bowled Attewell, and the Players closed their innings, leaving their rivals 230 to make for victory.

At ten minutes past 4 Messrs Stoddart and de Trafford faced Attewell and Lockwood. Mr de Trafford hit the latter to leg for four, but was then caught at slip, and Mr Murdoch joined Mr Stoddart. After a brief interruption through a shower Mr Stoddart made various good strokes until at 27 he was dismissed by a fine catch in the long field. Immediately on Mr Smith's appearance rain fell in torrents, and after waiting half an hour it was decided to abandon the match.

1 September: SUSSEX v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3889.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 September, page 5)

In consequence of the heavy showers little progress was made with this match at the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday. Except that Mr Dunlop takes Mr Robinson's place, the Somerset side is the same that has recently done so well at Taunton, while in the home team Mr C A Smith takes the place of Mr A F Somerset.

The visitors won the toss and decided to bat first on the slow pitch, but, just as they were going in, the rain came and delayed the start until 1 o'clock. Messrs Hewett and Palairt were opposed by Tate and Guttridge, and with only three runs recorded Mr Palairt was cleverly caught at wicket, Butt taking the ball as it rebounded off his body. With Mr Challen in the figures were raised to 18, and then the weather became so wet that the prospect of further play looked remote.

However, at a quarter to 5 the game was resumed, and 32 runs had been added in 15 minutes, when another interruption occurred, and then stumps were drawn. By his 38, Mr Hewett raises his aggregate runs in county cricket to 1,000 – a feat that this season has not been accomplished by any other batsman.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 3 September, page 10)

There was a heavy rainstorm at Brighton yesterday, which prevented play in this match at the Hove Ground. Early in the afternoon it was decided to give up any idea of cricket. This morning the game will be resumed at 11 o'clock. Somerset have scored 50 for one wicket (Mr Hewett, not out, 38).

Day 3 (report from Monday 5 September, page 5)

Bad weather pursued this match at Brighton to the end. There was only a very little play on Saturday, when Messrs Hewett and Challen advanced the score, against the bowling of Tate and Guttridge, to 62, and then rain fell heavily, making the turf unfit for further cricket and causing the abandonment of the match. Mr Hewett's 50 were made in 40 minutes by nine fours, a three, four twos and three singles.

[Note: County averages can be found on Cricket Archive under:

http://www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Events/ENG/County_Championship_1892/Team_Averages.html]

Although there yet remains nearly a fortnight's first-class cricket, the county matches, which form the backbone of the game, closed on Saturday with Somerset and Sussex at Brighton. Happily the adverse conditions under which many of the August fixtures were carried out did not prevail generally, and cricketers may congratulate themselves on what was at least a decided break in the bad weather so prevalent in recent summers.

The majority of grounds furnished plenty of true pitches, and Lord's, as it should do, set a good example. Perhaps the Oval scarcely maintained its reputation in this respect, and there was an outcry, too, among some of the sides who played on Bramall-lane, Sheffield. But batsmen have little to complain of, when memories are revived of some recent years.

To hold the first position among the leading counties for five seasons out of six is an achievement of which Surrey should well be proud. This result may in no small measure be attributable to the manner in which the game has been fostered in various parts of the county. Opportunities have been afforded for young players of promise to appear at Kennington Oval, and thus have a chance of their true merits being tested. The triumphs of the champion county were, however, alloyed by their twofold defeat at the hands of Notts. Both of these matches, it may be remarked, exercised the minds of the cricketing public more than any others in the tournament which the fixtures of the nine leading counties combined to make.

The disappointment in Nottinghamshire was no doubt keen at the closing disasters which dulled the brilliancy of the first 12 engagements; but the county must not forget that the season has witnessed their eleven rise to a higher position than it occupied last year. Although the styles of the most-successful batsmen are so different, it may be interesting to mention that the averages of Mr W W Read and Shrewsbury run each other very close.

The county which last season was included for the first time in first-class cricket was left to provide the batsman with the highest aggregate – namely, Mr H T Hewett, the Somerset captain, who has achieved the rare distinction of scoring 1,000 runs in county matches. Somerset's many brilliant feats, and the fine play of Messrs Hewett and Palairt in particular, were a marked feature of this year's cricket. These two batsmen in the match with Yorkshire at Taunton beat the record for the first wicket, which had stood for 23 years in the possession of Dr W G Grace and Mr B B Cooper, who, in the game between Gentlemen and Players of the South at Kennington Oval, scored 283 before they were separated. The partnership of the two Somerset players yielded 346, and the total of 592 made on that occasion is the record of the year. If analogies have any value, Somerset's inclusion in the first-class circle was justified by the fact that they defeated Nottinghamshire after the latter had already twice beaten Surrey. The western county must be heartily congratulated upon its attainment of so high a position as third.

Lancashire, although commanding the services of most of their tried players, have fallen from second to fourth position. They have yet a good record, and their closing triumph against Nottinghamshire was their most notable victory. Middlesex and Yorkshire, who rank fifth and sixth respectively, both played fine cricket, and for a long time at the beginning of the summer their successes augured well for the securing of high positions. But misfortune eventually overtook

them, after which there was only an occasion win scored by either of these two excellent sides.

Kent, Gloucestershire and Sussex are the unfortunate clubs of the year, and whichever way they turned defeat seemed in store for them. Kent beat Gloucestershire and Sussex, Gloucestershire beat Kent and Sussex beat Gloucestershire.

Winning the toss is a question that has been considerably discussed by the public; but the counties are yet unprepared for any new custom by which the visiting side should receive first innings. Some time back a suggestion of this sort was made by a great cricketer. It has the merit of courtesy, but would detract from the uncertainty which is the charm of the game.

To the closure rule Surrey owed their first success against Yorkshire, and this excellent law was utilized often. There seems no reason, however, why it should be applicable to only the last day of a game, and Nottinghamshire have already decided to bring the subject before the Marylebone Club, suggesting at the same time its amendment so that a team may close their innings on the second day of any match.

The system of points furnishes the usual controversy, but it must not be forgotten that the principal now in vogue was laid down by the delegates of the counties themselves.

SURREY

After losing both the Bank Holiday matches with their old opponents of Nottingham, Surrey's chances for chief position among the counties declined in a degree that caused their less sanguine friends to aspire only to second place. But with the return contest against Notts off their hands the Surrey eleven played with great brilliancy; the two changes in the constitution of the side were also very effective.

Sharpe gave way to Richardson, whose skill as a fast bowler had been almost sufficiently proved to have merited him a trial against the Midland side, and Baldwin, formerly of Suffolk but now qualified for Surrey by residence, showed himself possessed of no mean abilities as a batsman. That Sharpe should have so quickly lost his bowling was of course a severe blow to the county, and before supplanting him in the bigger matches the executive gave him plenty of opportunity to achieve something to keep his place. After a winter's rest his spin and pitch may return to him; there are some people who attribute his deterioration to the work on the hard wickets in Australia with Lord Sheffield's team, for it needs a bowler of much strength to keep up his form for what amounts to three seasons without a break of any length.

Glancing generally at the side, all cricketers will agree as to its almost uniform excellence, and if we except the bad hands from which Wood, the wicket-keeper, suffers, there is not a weak point in the side. Mr Walter W Read's position at the head of the batting averages is in every way deserved; he did not begin the season too well, but having played himself into form his skill and success never forsook him. Thrice he reached the 100 (twice against Sussex and once against Gloucestershire), while those who witnessed his 196 on the Oval will not readily forget the powerful nature of his driving. He scored 400 more runs than last year, and his average is some 18 points better.

Abel and Henderson, who are second and third respectively, were invaluable for their steadiness and consistency in making useful scores, Henderson being especially so. Lockwood and Mr Shuter made better totals than last year, but neither Maurice Read nor Lohmann met with the same

measure of success.

Lockwood has come on in a remarkable way as a bowler; with a wicket in the least way untrue he proved himself almost unplayable, and he can bowl a very fine yorker, while his wonderful breakback received perhaps its best illustrations when at the Oval on August Bank Holiday he disposed of Shrewsbury and Gunn. Last year he took 42 wickets at an average of 12 runs; this season his figures are 114, at a slightly greater cost. Lohmann bowled nearly 100 overs less than in 1891, but he took 102 wickets and was only a fraction more expensive than Lockwood.

Upon these two great bowlers devolved the brunt of the attack; Abel's slow deliveries were very useful as a change, and he rarely went on without getting a wicket. Richardson did well for a first appearance; he is a very young player and the fast pace at which he bowls must be something of a strain on his slight physique, but before next season his strength should have considerably increased. It is worthy of mention that Richardson is a native of Surrey, having been born at Byfleet.

Mr Streatfeild in no way played up to his University form, but there were plenty of regrets at the disappearance of Mr K J Key from the side. Surrey really want another wicket-keeper; Wood's hands cannot be depended on, and Mr R P Lewis, of Winchester College, who by the way was tried in a couple of the county's smaller matches, must be given two or three more years before he is asked to stand up regularly to the great Surrey bowlers. His form against Derbyshire afforded plenty of proof of his skill.

Surrey's 13 victories were gained thus:- Two each against Middlesex, Kent, Yorkshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Sussex; and one over Lancashire. In the first match with Yorkshire the contest was very exciting, and Mr Shuter ran some risk in closing his innings at the time he did on the last day; how keen was his judgment was illustrated by the fact that within three minutes of "time" the last Yorkshire wicket fell, and 17 runs' balance remained in favour of Surrey.

Apart from this the closest finishes were with Kent, at Tonbridge, and Yorkshire, at the Oval, but even on those occasions the verdict was pretty substantial. The drawn match was with Lancashire, at Old Trafford, when so much rain was experienced. The losses against Notts were by seven and four wickets. In the second instance a good wicket-keeper might have helped them to save defeat. Fielding was also a strong point in Surrey's game.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Cricketers were quite unprepared for the spell of ill-fortune which characterized the closing weeks of Notts. The sensational collapse of the eleven at Taunton and Old Trafford caused a great stir in the cricket world, as these misfortunes were a stroke of good luck for Surrey, whom they enabled to jump into first position.

Having victoriously got through the second crucial test with Surrey on the Oval, the Midland team had plenty of reason to look with confidence to their remaining fixtures, especially when their next two games against Kent and Middlesex were both won. But at Cheltenham they spent too much time on their first innings. As it was, Gloucestershire could not be got out twice, and the game had to be left drawn. Then followed the reverse at Taunton, where, after a big score by Somerset, the pitch was spoiled by rain and Notts were twice ousted, and suffered a severe loss. The feebleness of their game at Manchester, and their eventual defeat, are fresh in the minds of the public, so that in

the end they are left three points behind Surrey.

Their ten matches were won out of the first 12, and included double victories over Surrey, Sussex and Middlesex, and one each over Lancashire, Gloucestershire, Kent and Somerset. Both the games with Yorkshire were drawn; in one the finish was pretty even, but at Trent-bridge the weather alone saved Yorkshire from defeat. The two losses, and the drawn matches at Cheltenham and with Kent, bring up the record to ten wins, two defeats and four unfinished games. Of course, their double success against Surrey was their greatest feat, and this will furnish pleasant food for reflection when they think that the championship was lost to them after it had been almost tightly in their grasp.

The batting and bowling figures will bear plenty of inspection, and in the excellence of these is great proof of the strength of the team. Shrewsbury is first on the batting list; he played in splendid form up to the time of the Taunton match, and his defence was always marked by that finish and precision which have made his name so famous. Although Gunn did well and has the large average of 32, his success was not so great as in 1891, when he occupied first place with an aggregate of 780 and an average of 43. H B Daft is third, a position secured to him, in a great measure, by the numerous times he was not out. Flowers is well up, but Barnes has fallen far down in the list. Attewell and Shacklock rendered their side useful aid as batsmen.

In the bowling Attewell just failed to get treble figures, but he has a fine average; Shacklock worked very hard and his fast bowling was much more effective than in other years. Flowers, who comes second, has an excellent record, and Barnes, who bowled more than in 1891, was a very useful change.

Bagguley, in whom people thought last year that Notts had found a good man, failed to keep his place in the eleven. With the side playing so well, the executive had little scope for trying new man. The eleven in most instances fielded splendidly, and Sherwin was quite himself as the wicket-keeper.

SOMERSET

After losing to Surrey at the Oval and to Middlesex at Lord's in the early part of June, the Somerset eleven rapidly improved. They won a fine match against Kent at Catford-bridge, and were only beaten by Nottinghamshire after a good game. Then followed a series of brilliant victories over Gloucestershire, at Bristol, and Lancashire, Sussex and Kent at Taunton. Their northern tour ended in a victory at Sheffield and a defeat at Manchester. Returning to Taunton they suffered a second reverse at the hands of Surrey, but this was followed by the successes over Notts and Middlesex and the brilliant scoring game with Yorkshire, when, going in against a total of 299, they ran up 592 in the course of six and a half hours. Bad weather spoiled their last three games, or else they would probably have been nearer to Notts than within five points.

But the attainment of third position is a great feat among so many powerful sides. The doings of the team aroused widespread interest in the West of England, and the enthusiastic crowds which gathered on the Taunton ground awakened memories of the days when the Graces were making such a great reputation for Gloucestershire.

The superb batting of Messrs Hewett and Palairt places them well at the head of the list; the former, indeed, secured the highest aggregate of the season, and he shares batting honours with Mr W W Read and Shrewsbury. The Somerset captain's powerful driving was never better illustrated

than when he made his 201 against Yorkshire. Mr Palairet, who captained the Oxford eleven, successfully scores rapidly and possesses great skill in defence. Messrs Hedley, Challen, Fowler, Woods and Hill all played well. It is an exception to find two such great wicket-keepers as the Rev A P Wickham and Mr A E Newton in one team.

There is not a wide difference in the average of the bowlers, but it will be noted that Mr S M J Woods and Tyler took the most wickets. The latter's splendid performances in the Notts match were recognized in a substantial manner by the spectators. A great feature of Somerset cricket, and one that has no small share in its success, was the excellent fielding by the side generally.

It was with considerable anxiety that the county executive early this year looked to the extension of the programme, so that the satisfactory results will be highly gratifying to all who are interested in Somerset cricket.

LANCASHIRE

Although Lancashire are well up in the list, their position is scarcely so high as their friends were justified in hoping, considering the amount of all-round talent in the eleven. Their batting and bowling averages came out very well.

Apart from an improvement by Sugg the professionals have been pretty much as successful as in 1891. Smith, who was put in the team only last year, has quickly run up to the first place, a position attained by sound and steady defence. Sugg, A Ward and Briggs played uniformly well; but a loss was experienced when Mr M'Laren had to give up his place in the eleven owing to an injured leg. The Old Harrovian played far more frequently than in 1891, and secured an average of 27, which gave him the third place in the table. Mr Crosfield, who captained the eleven in the majority of cases, was less successful, although his figures came out very creditably.

Mr A N Hornby only played in a few games, and his apparent gradual withdrawal from important cricket cannot but be regretted by the general community, for his associations with cricket have been too close to be easily forgotten. There have been few more popular men than the Lancashire captain, whose keenness never overstepped the region of fairness.

In bowling Mold and Briggs carried off the leading honours; the former has the distinction of again securing three figures in his aggregate of wickets, but the records of both men much resemble their last year's performances. The veteran Watson has again done useful work, and with better results than in 1891. Mr A T Kemble kept wicket remarkably well.

Apart from Mr Hubback, who did little to merit his choice, no new blood was introduced into the eleven; while Mr A G Steel, who has generally managed one match a year for his county, was absent from the ranks this season.

Lancashire experienced a piece of bad luck on more than one occasion; for instance, Middlesex just managed to escape defeat from them, and they were in a favourable position when rain spoilt the home match with Surrey. In their last week they lost to Surrey on the Oval and then gained a brilliant victory over Nottinghamshire. Sussex were twice beaten by them, and Somerset, Kent, Gloucestershire and Yorkshire once each. Their five losses were all sustained away from Manchester – viz., at Taunton, the Oval, Sheffield, Lord's and Nottingham.

MIDDLESEX

If their results show them in a less favourable light than some of the other counties, it may justly be said of Middlesex that they possessed one of the most brilliant teams of the season. Indeed, the fine array of batting talent and the skill of the bowlers make it surprising that the record was not better. They occasionally failed on the bad turf, and before Mr M'Gregor was able to play the wicket-keeping proved a source of much weakness. But how well the excellence of the county cricket at Lord's was appreciated by the London public was seen in the very big attendances. Their "gates" at headquarters were larger in the season now over than ever before known.

J T Hearne generally bowled as well as ever; but apparently his great amount of work in the county and the big Marylebone fixtures told its tale during the latter part of the season, when his pitch was not so consistently good. However, he took 100 wickets and is top of the figures. Rawlin, as in 1891, is second, but although he has taken more wickets he was expensive. Mr Nepean played less frequently and with not so much success, but Phillips proved a very useful man, especially in the earlier games. Of course the fact of Mr Nepean's inability to appear oftener was to be regretted.

In batting, Mr S W Scott is first with a wonderful average of 39; he has never done so well for the county, and his 224 against Gloucestershire at Lord's ranks among the features of the year. Mr Stoddart played many fine innings, notably his 91 against Surrey on a bad wicket at the Oval and his 130 in the first match with Notts at Lord's. He batted more than in 1891, but his position and average are similar to last year, when he was second with 30. Mr O'Brien's form was not so consistent, and although his batting was frequently very effective, especially in the matches against Somerset, he falls from first place to fourth, which he occupies with 24.

Mr A J Webbe, whose injury kept him out of the side a good deal last season, was able to captain the team on every occasion but one, and the cricketing public will have noticed with pleasure his return to form; he has scored 300 more than in 1891 and his average is 19. Mr Henery proved very successful in the later matches, while the Oxford captain, Mr Jardine, was seen to especial advantage in the Lancashire contest.

Up to a certain point the side did wonderfully well, but from the time of the visit to the Oval misfortune overtook them, and they lost three games in succession. Although they made a first innings of 292 they failed to win the match with Yorkshire, which could be easily traced to the errors of the wicket-keeper. Yorkshire were left with 249 to win, and they accomplished the task at a cost of six wickets. The seven victories were over Sussex (twice), Gloucestershire, Kent, Yorkshire, Somerset and Lancashire. Surrey and Notts each beat them twice and Somerset and Yorkshire once.

YORKSHIRE

The improvement shown in the Yorkshire record in comparison with 1891 is that they lost five instead of ten; yet the balance was only unfinished games, for the matches won were still five out of 16 played. This is a far different summary to that foreshadowed by the success of the eleven in the early part of the season, when their first four engagements all furnished successes for them. The last of these was the victory over Middlesex in a remarkable match; Yorkshire went in to make 249 in the last innings, and they won by four wickets, Ulyett batting in his best form and getting 111.

The victorious spell was broken by Surrey at Leeds on a bad wicket, and from that time Yorkshire did not win a match for nearly two months. Rain probably saved them from defeat at Trent-bridge and Taunton, but there was not much in any of the other drawn matches. The wins were over Sussex twice, Middlesex, Kent and Lancashire, and the defeats were sustained at the hands of Surrey (twice), Lancashire, Somerset and Middlesex. Neither at Bramall-lane nor Headingley were the wickets good, and there was much complaint about the former ground.

While neither Peel nor Ulyett did so well as in the last season, Wainwright has come on as a batsman, while Messrs Ernest Smith and F S Jackson also proved themselves of great service, and each has a good average. Wainwright scored more runs than any one else for the county, and is first in the bowling, in which he just beats Peel. Hall failed after the earlier matches to maintain his place in the eleven. Mounsey promises to become a good bat, while Hirst's trials as a fast bowler were not wholly unsuccessful. Indeed there is plenty of fine cricket in the team, and the county, while congratulating itself on an upward move of two places in this year's results, should also look with plenty of confidence to the future.

The inability of David Hunter to keep wicket in the later games was a source of weakness to the team. It may also be noted that Lord Hawke was absent from the closing matches.

KENT

Kent can look back into their cricket of the past season with little else than regret. Their ill fortune largely arose from the deterioration in their attack. Martin had neither the length nor the break in the degree that made him such a good bowler in 1891, when he took 98 wickets at an average cost of 13 runs; this year he has secured 38 wickets less at an increased cost of more than ten runs each. Walter Wright has slightly improved his record, but A Hearne bowled much less than in 1891, and has only eight wickets against 40 in that season. Of course it must not be overlooked that he is now more relied upon as a batsman.

Walter Hearne played regularly for the side, and his position at the head of the bowling table with 88 wickets is a great feat to have achieved when it is remembered that before this season he had received only an occasional trial. He has an easy action and should prove of great use to Kent in the future.

Generally there is a great improvement in the batting table, which is headed by Mr W H Patterson, the captain of the side in the later matches, while A Hearne is second with an average less by seven. Mr F Marchant failed repeatedly, and the nature of his ill fortune will be gathered from the fact that in comparison to the 1891 tables he has scored 340 runs less, and has fallen from first place with 26 to 15th with 11. Messrs Le Fleming, W L Knowles and Braybrooke all did well, and George Hearne was put in the side again late in the season with considerable success. The absence of Mr Patterson from most of the early games was of course severely felt. He managed to help his county in the match at Old Trafford, Manchester, where his fine innings of 114 enabled Kent to make a very even draw after they had followed on.

The two victories were over Sussex at Gravesend and Gloucestershire at Canterbury. They were beaten twice by Surrey and Somerset, and once each by Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Middlesex and Gloucestershire. Drawn matches were made with Lancashire, Middlesex, Yorkshire, Sussex and Nottinghamshire.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Gloucestershire will attribute most of their ill fortune to weak bowling, where the figures show the average cost of wickets to range from 24 to 30 runs each. Murch has the best record. The county people will no doubt be disappointed at the analysis of Mr J J Ferris, the Australian, who (with Mr C T B Turner) proved such a dangerous foe to English batsmen during the colonial tour. His wickets in 612 overs have been only 46, and these were obtained at a cost of 28 runs each. Indeed the bowling returns compare very unfavourably with those of 1891, and Woof's decline is especially noted.

There is more pleasure to be found in turning to the batting table. Here Dr W G Grace has assumed his old position at the head of the list with nearly 400 runs more than last season, and a fine average of 36. In the middle of the summer he was troubled by a bad knee, but on recovery played splendidly. Dr E M Grace, Mr Radcliffe and Painter have all done well, but the second and third positions have been occupied by new aspirants to county honours. Mr R W Rice, of Oxford, and Mr S A P Kitcat are excellent batsmen, and their success furnished one of the bright features in the Gloucestershire cricket. Mr Rice has a capital style, and as the season advanced it was seen what a fine player Oxford had overlooked in making up their team against Cambridge. Mr J J Ferris showed steady defence, and on occasions Captain Luard distinguished himself both in the field and in batting, being seen especially to advantage in the Oval match with Surrey. Two familiar names are missing from Gloucestershire's records – viz., Mr F Townsend and Mr J Cranston.

Gloucestershire's solitary victory was secured in their opening match at Bristol, when they met Kent; Surrey defeated them twice, and their other losses were from Somerset, Nottinghamshire, Lancashire, Kent, Middlesex and Sussex; while drawn matches were played with Yorkshire (two), Somerset, Nottinghamshire, Lancashire, Sussex and Middlesex.

SUSSEX

Ill-fortune dogged Sussex cricket with a persistency that must have been quite disheartening to a county whose associations with the game have been so close and interesting. Defeat was almost ever with them. A solitary success against Gloucestershire lends a little brightness to the darkened retrospect of the Lillywhites' county. Twelve matches were lost and three drawn. Surrey, Lancashire, Middlesex, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire beat the team twice; while Somerset and Kent also defeated them. The return fixtures with Somerset, Kent and Gloucestershire were drawn.

In the batting Bean has fallen from first place to a position far down the list, and his bowling has also deteriorated. Mr G Brann played very successfully, and in the second match with Kent obtained two scores of over 100 each, a feat which in first-class cricket had before been accomplished only by Dr W G Grace. Mr Newham's figures are an improvement on those of 1891, and Mr Heasman, who is third, promises to be a useful batsman to the side. Another new member was Guttridge, of Nottingham, who qualified for Sussex by residence. He is a capital all-round cricketer and did well for his first year.

There is only one bowling average under 20; the side greatly relied on Humphreys (whose wickets cost over 20 runs each) and on Tate. Another good bowler is sadly needed.

5 September: C I THORNTON'S XI v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3890.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 September, page 4)

Yesterday Mr Thornton placed a strong England eleven in the field at Scarborough to oppose the champion county. England won the toss, and at a quarter past 12 Mr Murdoch and Barnes proceeded to the wickets. Lohmann and Lockwood were the early bowlers.

The start was most disastrous for the batsmen, as when three only were made Mr Murdoch was clean bowled, and four runs later a catch at wicket dismissed Barnes. The partnership of Gunn and Mr Stoddart did not last long, the former being tempted to return the ball. Mr Smith joined Mr Stoddart and the prospect brightened. Both batsmen hit in a determined manner. Mr Stoddart sent a ball of Lockwood's to leg for four and drove Lohmann to the boundary. Nor was Mr Smith idle, scoring among other figures a cut for four from Lockwood. Off this bowler, however, when he had made 17 only, he should have been caught at slip by Baldwin. For this mistake the county had to pay dearly.

With the total at 56 Lockwood handed the ball to Richardson. But the separation came from the other end, Lohmann bowling Mr Stoddart. A yorker soon dismissed Mr O'Brien, and at 69 Wainwright also had to leave. Peel arrived, and Mr Smith, having made 38, was missed in the long field by Maurice Read. This player for a while almost entirely monopolized the batting. He completed his 50 in an hour and five minutes. At 99 Peel was bowled and Mr Ferris appeared. He remained while Mr Smith put on 15, and then Abel, who had relieved Lohmann, caused him to return the second ball. The luncheon interval was now taken.

Mr Smith, who had made 70, afterwards had Attewell for a partner. The former gave the wicket-keeper a chance, and then the scoring became rapid. With the total at 129, Abel gave way to Lohmann, and Mr Smith, who had then scored 90, was allowed to escape in the long field by Abel off the change. This batsman completed his 100 after he had been in for an hour and 40 minutes. A further variation was adopted at 159, when Richardson relieved Lockwood, and six runs later Attewell, who had assisted in putting on 50, was caught at mid-off. Mr M'Gregor next joined Mr Smith, who was once more missed in the long field off Lohmann, whom he then hit out of the ground for six. At length this gentleman was caught by Abel. He had been at the wickets two hours and, in spite of his mistakes, had hit freely for his 122, in which were one six, eight fours, four threes, 24 twos &c.

At 4 o'clock Baldwin and Maurice Read faced the attacks of Wainwright and Mr Ferris. The two batsmen mentioned were quickly bowled, and a catch by third man disposed of Lockwood. Mr W W Read and Abel, however, altered the aspect of affairs and caused Mr Ferris to give way to Peel. The 50 was recorded shortly before 5 o'clock, and six runs later Attewell went on for Wainwright. Only four had been put on and Mr Read was bowled, as was Henderson, who had taken his place. Abel left at 111, while a catch in the long field got rid of Lohmann. Stumps were now drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 September, page 4)

The interest in this match was well sustained at Scarborough yesterday, when the weather continued

fine and a large number of people visited the ground. At the drawing of stumps on the previous evening, England had completed an innings for 185, and seven Surrey wickets were down for 116.

Soon after 12 o'clock Mr Key (the not-out with 8) resumed his batting with Brockwell. Attewell and Wainwright again had charge of the attack. A hit to square-leg was made by Brockwell, and when this batsman, by a few minor items, had advanced the total to 128, Wainwright gave up the ball to Mr Ferris – a change which had the effect of causing Brockwell to be caught at long-field-off. Wood remained until the score had reached 143, when he was clean bowled, and ten runs later Richardson, the last man, fell to the wicket-keeper, the innings closing at five minutes to 1 for 153.

With a balance of 32 in hand, Mr Murdoch and Barnes went in a second time for England. Lohmann and Lockwood bowled. The Notts batsman again did badly, as when he had only made six, a ball from Lockwood beat him. Gunn arrived, and at this point the fielding of Surrey was greatly admired. Eighteen runs only came from three-quarters of an hour's play. Gunn was bowled a little before 2 o'clock, and the luncheon interval was taken.

Subsequently Mr Stoddart accompanied Mr Murdoch to the wickets. Lohmann and Lockwood again bowled. The batting soon triumphed. Mr Stoddart scored quickly, and then Mr Murdoch, after getting a lucky four through the slips from Lohmann, twice cut Lockwood for the same number. Fifty runs were the result of an hour and ten minutes' play, and when three were added Richardson was tried for Lohmann. This change only had the effect of accelerating the scoring, Mr Stoddart batting with exceptional vigour. In the first over of it he scored 11, in the second he cut the ball for four, and in the third sent it to the square-leg boundary. The fourth yielded eight runs, and in all five overs produced 30. After this liberal treatment Lockwood, who had been relieved by Abel, went on for Richardson. Mr Stoddart, with a fine drive for four, completed his 50. Mr Murdoch now made seven by a cut and leg hit, the 100 being signalled at 3.45.

Shortly after this Lohmann resumed for Abel. Mr Stoddart still hit vigorously, and having made three fours from Lockwood that bowler gave way to Mr Walter Read at 126. From the first ball Mr Murdoch, who had then made 47, had a narrow escape at the hands of Lohmann, fielding at mid-off. Profiting by this, he completed his 50 in the same over. Mr Stoddart did not play the "lobs" at all well, but it was left to Lohmann to get his wicket, which he did by inducing him to return the ball. In his freely hit 73 (which had occupied an hour and 20 minutes) were ten fours, three threes and five twos. No fewer than 124 runs had been added in 100 {?} minutes since the fall of the previous wicket.

Mr Smith, who had batted with such freedom on the previous day, was bowled off his pads at 151, and Mr O'Brien joined Mr Murdoch. Again runs were obtained freely. The former made a few boundary hits, but at 191 he was caught in the deep field. Five runs later Mr Murdoch's superb innings, which had lasted two hours and three-quarters, was closed by a ball from Mr Read. His principal figures were 12 fours, three threes and five twos.

Wainwright and Peel were now together, and a few minutes after 5 o'clock a drive by the former caused the 200 to be telegraphed. When the score had been taken to 224 Mr Read relinquished the ball to Lockwood. The separation, however, was effected from the opposite end, Lohmann causing Wainwright to send him back the ball. After this little was done. At 236 a catch by slip dismissed Mr Ferris and Mr M'Gregor was stumped, while 11 runs later Peel played the ball into the hands of short slip; the innings, which had extended over three hours and 10 minutes, realizing 247. Stumps were now drawn for the day.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 September, page 8)

Rain prevented the conclusion of this match yesterday at Scarborough. The game was thus left drawn . . .

5 September: EAST v WEST

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3891.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 September, page 4)

A variety in the way of first-class fixtures was furnished by the arrangement of this match on the United Services Ground at Portsmouth. Two excellent sides were chosen, and were captained by Mr H T Hewett and Mr C W Wright. Beautiful weather prevailed, and on a slow but improving pitch the West went in first.

Mr Hewett, who, with his usual companion in early partnerships – Mr L C H Palairet – opened the innings, began in his characteristic manner, scoring 27 out of 32 in 20 minutes. He made his first 22 in four overs, but profited little by an escape in the slips, as he was soon stumped. Mr Palairet left at 76 for an admirable 33, after which Messrs Fowler and Morgan met with some success. At luncheon time the record was 122 for four. After the interval Mr Gay batted well; but the last six wickets fell within an hour for an addition of 84. Shilton's bowling was very good.

After the East had lost Messrs Bainbridge and Brann for 22 runs, Mr Wright and Ulyett made a determined stand and in 50 minutes added 68, of which Ulyett's share was 44. Messrs Wright and Newham then played out time, the closing record leaving them with seven wickets in hand, while they are only 60 runs behind the total of their rivals. It may be noted that, with sufficient support, it is hoped to make this an annual fixture.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 September, page 4)

Yesterday there was a much large attendance than on Monday at the United Services Ground, Portsmouth, and the weather was again fine. The record at the resumption of play was thus – West 186, East 126 for three wickets.

Messrs C W Wright and Newham, who had made a stand overnight, increased the figures by only two before they were separated. Mr Newham was bowled, and soon afterwards Mr Wright's excellent innings was closed by a catch at mid-off. He had gone in first and was fifth out at 141; his 50 consisted of four fours, five threes, four twos and singles. So effective was the bowling of Mr Woods that the last five batsmen added only 18 runs; indeed, during the morning the old Light Blue captain took six wickets in seven overs for 15 runs, while the innings of the East was so rapidly finished that in three-quarters of an hour their remaining seven wickets fell for 33 runs. Although slightly aided by the state of the turf, it was a fine performance on the part of Mr Woods. Thus the East, who had seemed to have much the best of the game, lost their advantage.

Shortly before 1 o'clock the West entered upon their second venture, Messrs Gibson and Gay being the early batsmen. Runs came slowly, and nearly 40 minutes were occupied in making 26. Then Mr Gay was bowled. Mr Fowler was dismissed before the interval, when the score stood at 44 for two wickets. The fourth wicket fell at 58. Messrs Henery and Palairet played in free style and raised the record to 107, putting on 49 in a little over half an hour. Mr Henery was now caught by cover-point, and at 129 Mr Palairet was bowled. The innings steadily closed; Mr Hewett left at 140, caught in the long-field, and the last man was out at 163, this total having been made in two hours and 40 minutes. Mr Hornsby had met with great success as a slow bowler, and his eight wickets cost a fraction less than eight runs each.

The East wanted 191 to win, but they fared badly during the last 50 minutes. To-day play will not begin until 1 o'clock.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 September, page 8)

At one time yesterday rain threatened to prevent further play in this match on the United Services ground, Portsmouth, but a start was made soon after 3 o'clock. With six wickets to fall the East still required 141 to win, and Messrs Newham and Ford, the not-outs, went on with the innings.

Mr Ford was soon bowled. Mr Hornsby stayed until 85, but the side were steadily dismissed. Mr Newham, who was the last to go, made an excellent 51. From the score subjoined it will be seen that the West of England won by 48 runs.

8 September: NORTH v SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3893.html)

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

Beautiful weather ushered in the Hastings Festival, which for some six years has furnished the closing stage of the first-class cricket season. The time-honoured title of North v South was once more brought into requisition for the opening match, and the representative nature of the elevens engaged promised well for the keenness of the contest.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Crosfield captained the sides, and in tossing the latter was successful; but the wicket was slow and it turned out that first innings was rather a disadvantage than otherwise. Albert Ward and Mr C W Wright began the North batting at a quarter past 12, while Mr Woods and Lohmann shared the attack. At the outset Ward forced the hitting with considerable success, but at 19 he drove the ball loftily and was well caught at long-off. His best strokes had been a couple of boundary hits. Gunn's stay was brief, for with only a single to his credit he cut the ball into the hands of point.

Two for 23 was a record sufficiently bad, yet affairs were subsequently worse for the visitors. Ulyett and Mr Wright certainly kept together some little time, but the fielding was excellent and the bowlers made most of their opportunities. In three-quarters of an hour the score reached 33, and which total a capital piece of fielding disposed of the amateur. At 34 Chatterton succumbed to Mr Woods; four runs later Ulyett drove the ball into the hands of Mr Stoddart in the long field, while at 47 Wainwright had to leave. Six down. Mr Crosfield and Peel put a better complexion on the game and runs were added steadily, until at 70 the northern captain was got out through a good piece of fielding by Martin and Wood.

After the luncheon interval the bowlers were still Mr Woods and Lohmann, and the former quickly sent back Mr Kemble and got Attewell caught at wicket. Nine for 75. Mr Spofforth, the last man, infused plenty of life into the batting; indeed, he scored 17 out of the 20 added for the tenth wicket, and the innings, which occupied about two and a quarter hours, closed for 95. Some admirable bowling had been supported by thoroughly good fielding. Mr Woods had a very fine analysis.

At 20 minutes to 4 Dr Grace and Mr Hewett began the home batting, and the bowlers were Spofforth and Mr Attewell. The beginning showed little improvement on that of the visitors. It is quite an exception to report a failure on the part of the famous Somerset captain, who fell to short slip from the first ball, while the score stood at seven only when a catch at mid-on caused the retirement of Dr Grace. Abel and Mr Stoddart were then partners. The bowlers met with a check, and the fine strokes of Mr Stoddart were much admired. So determined was the defence that at 46 Mr Spofforth gave up the ball to Wainwright, who at 53 got out Mr Stoddart leg before. The last-mentioned had contributed 32 of the 46 put on. Mr W W Read was finely taken at mid-on, making four wickets down for 56. More lively cricket followed the appearance of Mr O'Brien, and the visitors again found it necessary to vary their attack. Mr Spofforth resumed at 75 and, after Mr O'Brien had hit a ball from him over the ring at square-leg, bowled the amateur – middle stump.

During the last half hour of play came vigorous play by Lohmann and considerable freedom from Abel, who was in capital form. The total of the North was passed just before 5 o'clock, and the 100 quickly afterwards went up. Peel for Attewell and Wainwright for Mr Spofforth were changes that proved ineffective, and the batsmen were unseparated at the call of "Time." So far the partnership

has yielded 52 runs in 35 minutes. It may be noted that the wicket became faster as the day advanced and that the large company was very enthusiastic.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 10 September, page 10)

In delightful weather and before a very large company of spectators, play in this match was continued yesterday on the Central Cricket and Recreation Ground, Hastings. The opening day's play left the South with a decided advantage, as they had dismissed their opponents for 95, while only half their own wickets had been lost for 131.

At a quarter to 12 the game was resumed by Abel and Lohmann (not out 53 and 18) facing the bowling of Mr Spofforth and Attewell. The last-named batsman had not increased his score when Ward missed him at mid-off from a lofty hit. This mistake proved a costly affair for the North. Runs came steadily and the attack was soon varied. At 162 Attewell crossed over and Peel took Mr Spofforth's place. A further escape was given Lohmann, on this occasion by Mr Spofforth. Directly afterwards Abel was secured by slip. The sixth wicket had produced 85 runs; the retiring batsman had been in two hours and a quarter; his 61 was the result of sound cricket and was made up of six fours, eight threes, two twos and singles. Six for 164.

Mr Woods failed to stop the first ball sent him, but Mr Ferris and Lohmann made a further stand. The latter scored four from each bowler; and at 12.20 an off-drive for three completed his 50. He then sent the ball into the hands of mid-on; his chief hits during a stay of an hour and a quarter were eight fours, two threes and two twos. Eight for 182. Wood now joined Mr Ferris, and again the bowling was mastered. The former batted freely, but should have been stumped prior to Mr Spofforth's going on for Attewell. The "200" was telegraphed at a quarter to 1. Five runs later Peel gave up the ball to Wainwright, but the wicket fell to Mr Spofforth, who clean bowled Wood. Nine for 213. Martin, as he has done on more than one occasion this season, hit vigorously, and was credited with 16 out of the last 19 runs. He then cut the ball into the hands of point, which closed the innings at a quarter to 1 for 232.

The North had 137 set them to prevent a single innings disaster. Mr Wright and Ward began this uphill task at 1.40. Lohmann and Woods, as in the first venture, shared the early bowling. A by no means promising start was made. Only half-a-dozen runs were recorded when a brilliant catch at point sent back Ward, and, without even the addition of a single, Mr Wright played into the hands of mid-on. The interval was now taken.

On resuming Ulyett and Gunn were the batsmen, and it was expected that these would offer a strong resistance to the attack. The contrary proved the case, as the Yorkshireman got over the line to drive a ball of Mr Woods's [?], but only just turned it, and before he could recover the wicket was put down. Three for 19. A further misfortune quickly befell the Northerners, as at 26 Chatterton was bowled off his pads. Gunn was now assisted by Wainwright, and these two caused the cricket to be a little more cheerful. The Nottingham batsman played the right game by standing well outside the crease, and thus prevented the bowler from taking full advantage of a spot on the wicket at one end. Wainwright, who scored the faster of the two, made a few good hits, which were heartily cheered. As the batsmen seemed well set, Abel and Martin were tried. The latter bowled Wainwright's off-stump at 73; he had made 27 of the 47 put on since the fall of the fourth wicket.

Gunn survived long enough to dispute the honours of top scorer with Wainwright, but was at length stumped. Six for 77. Peel and Mr Crosfield batted so well that Lohmann resumed in place of Abel

at 93. Four runs later he bowled Mr Crosfield. It was not until 110 had been reached, however, that Peel fell to a fine right-handed catch high up at mid-off. The last two wickets were captured for an addition 17 runs – Mr Kemble caught in the long field and Mr Spofforth bowled. Total, 127. Lohmann's last bowling effort came out thus:- Five overs and two balls, 19 runs, four wickets. The South were thus victorious by an innings and 10 runs.

Great disappointment was felt at the comparatively weak batting of the North, and also at their mistakes in letting Lohmann, the second best scorer of the match, twice escape. It must be admitted that the wicket, especially at one end, greatly favoured the Southern bowlers, who were also materially assisted by the brilliant fielding of their side. A scratch match will be played to-day.

12 September: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3894.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 September, page 8)

The delightful weather yesterday caused a large number of spectators to visit the Central Cricket and Recreation Ground, Hastings. One of the most attractive matches in cricket had been provided – namely, that is between Gentlemen and Players. A remarkably strong batting team of amateurs entered the field, although J J Ferris was unable to play, owing to a strain. His place had to be filled by Mr G K Papillon, a cricketer well known in the South Saxons Club. The Players were not quite so representative, yet they were as strong as could be expected, considering the lateness of the season.

The Gentlemen won the toss, and at five minutes past 12 Dr W G Grace and Mr Hewett went to the wickets. Lohmann and Attewell began the attack. The bowling was so good that runs came slowly. Mr Hewett only made a dozen, and the dismissal of this famous hitter by a ball from Attewell at 20 was disappointing to the spectators. Further misfortunes quickly befell the Gentlemen, for at 29 Mr Stoddart was secured by the wicket-keeper, while, when he had made an off-drive for four, Mr Palairet returned Lohmann the ball. Three for 33.

Mr Read joined Dr Grace and both hit freely. The public were unsparing in their applause as these batsmen advanced the score. At 58, Martin displaced Lohmann, but his first over produced nine runs, and the Gloucestershire captain then hit Attewell twice for four. The last-named gave way to Abel at 83, but no success attended this alteration and, in spite of Peel's going on, the 100 was reached at 25 minutes to 2. Three runs later Lohmann again tried his hand, and very soon Mr Read made his 50 by an off-drive for four. Dr Grace, with his figures at 47, might have been caught at square-leg had Abel judged the ball rightly. As it was these batsmen had not been separated at the luncheon interval, when the total was 129 for three wickets – Dr Grace 52 and Mr Read 53.

On resuming Lohmann and Attewell, as at the start, took charge of the bowling. Matters for a while took an unfavourable turn for the Gentlemen. At 132, Mr Read fell to a remarkably fine catch at the third attempt by short slip; he had made 56 out of the 99 added for the fourth wicket in an hour and a half without giving a chance, and his principal hits were five fours, two threes and eight twos. Four down. Mr O'Brien was unfortunate in played on before he had scored, and Dr W G Grace was at length bowled. He had been batting two hours and a quarter for his 54, in which were seven fours, two threes, four twos and singles. Six for 137.

Messrs Wright and Crosfield now became partners, and again good hitting was witnessed. No fewer than 42 runs were put on by them before a "yorker" sent back Mr Wright. Eight were added after the arrival of Mr Woods, when Mr Crosfield was run out through Lohmann and Wood. Mr Papillon joined Mr Woods, and a few sharp runs caused the 200 to be telegraphed at five minutes past 4. Lohmann handed the ball to Peel, but Attewell effected the separation by bowling Mr Papillon at 208, and for an addition three runs Mr Woods was well stumped. Total, 211; duration of innings, three hours and a quarter.

The Players began their batting at 20 minutes to 5 with Abel and Gunn. Dr W G Grace and Mr Woods bowled. After a drive for four by the Surrey batsman the play grew very quiet. In 20 minutes only 16 runs were scored, and then the wicket-keeper disposed of Gunn. Ward was bowled by the first ball sent him, and at 17 Abel was run out through a fine piece of fielding by Mr

Crosfield at cover-point. Three down. Chatterton and Bean now became partners and played out time.

By his innings at Hastings yesterday Dr W G Grace has made over a thousand runs in first-class matches. There are now eight batsmen who have accomplished this feat – namely, Mr A E Stoddart, 1,402; Mr H T Hewett, 1,402; Mr L C H Palairt, 1,305; Shrewsbury, 1,260; Gunn, 1,091; Mr W W Read, 1,077; Dr W G Grace, 1,050; and Mr S W Scott, 1,015. Should the Gentlemen not have to bat again, it will be noted that Messrs Stoddart and Hewett tie for first honours. Abel has now obtained 991 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 14 September, page 4)

Again there was a numerous company of spectators on the Hastings ground to witness the continuation of this match – indeed, it was one of the largest attendances recorded for the Festival. The cricket proved highly interesting. On Monday the Gentlemen had completed an innings for 211, while three good wickets of the Players (Abel, Gunn and A Ward) were lost for 30 runs.

The game was resumed at 20 minutes to 12 when Chatterton and Bean (not outs ten and four) were opposed by Dr W G Grace and Mr Woods. The batsmen did so well that the probability of a follow on was for a time dispelled. The total went to 60, at which point Mr Stoddart relieved Dr Grace. No fewer than 43 were put on in less than half an hour, and Chatterton then cut the ball into point's hands. Lohmann was next on the order, but only 15 were added when Bean returned the ball. Half the wickets were now lost for 88.

Peel joined Lohmann, and at 12.35 the 100 was reached. An unlooked for collapse ensued a single later, when Peel played on, Lohmann sent back the ball and Attewell was bowled off his pads. At 106 Ulyett played on, and Wood, three runs later, skied the ball to mid-off. The innings, which had occupied two hours and ten minutes, closed at 1 o'clock. Mr Woods had bowled very effectively, taking eight wickets for 46 runs.

With 102 against them the Players began their second venture at 1.25. Abel and Gunn were the first to oppose Dr W G Grace and Mr Woods. The Surrey batsman soon obtained the nine runs necessary to complete his thousand in first-class matches and was most heartily cheered. The score rose by rapid strides and Dr Grace relinquished the ball to Mr Stoddart. Still no separation had been effected at luncheon, when the score stood at 42.

On play being resumed, Mr Crosfield bowled an over to enable Messrs Woods and Stoddart to change ends. The defence by both batsmen was admirable. When Abel had made 25, Mr Stoddart missed holding a sharp return from him. Then came a slight injury to Mr Kemble at wicket off the bowling of Mr Woods, which caused him to retire. He soon resumed his post, however, and at 67 Gunn was finely caught at cover-point. One down. Ward, who had not scored on the previous evening, did little – bowled leg-stump. Chatterton appeared, and runs came pretty freely for a few overs. At 94 Mr Crosfield was tried, but a cut by the Derbyshire player shot the total up to 100 at 4 o'clock. Then the deficit was rubbed off, and at 105 Mr Woods relieved Mr Stoddart. The parting came from the other end, however, Chatterton being caught at wicket. Three for 109.

Bean joined Abel, who, when he had made 59, gave a chance to Mr Walter Read at extra slip. The Surrey batsman made much of his escape, and twice cut Mr Crosfield to the boundary. At 126

recourse was had to Mr Read's lobs. A very fast ball from Mr Woods struck Abel on the finger, which had to be bound up. As the lobs did not answer, Mr Read handed the ball to Mr Stoddart. Plenty of free hitting was shown by both batsmen, so that at 159 Mr Palairet relieved Mr Stoddart. Still runs came, and Abel advanced his total to 92, which is his highest innings this season. He and Bean remained in partnership until the drawing of stumps . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 15 September, page 4)

Under the most charming conditions the Hastings Festival, which throughout has been well favoured by the weather, was brought to a close yesterday. Overnight the game had been left at an exciting stage: the Players had followed on with arrears of 102, but so well had been the uphill fight that at the close they had cleared off the deficit and were 79 runs to the good with only three men out.

Abel, 92, and Bean, 35, resumed the innings at a quarter to 12, and were confronted by Messrs Woods and Stoddart. The start was bad, for with only five runs added Bean sent the ball into the hands of mid-on. Lohmann went in next. Abel reached his 100 amid loud cheering. After this runs came at a great pace, Lohmann making many fine boundary hits. The second hundred was reached; but at 222 came the dismissal of Abel. He was run out through a brilliant piece of fielding by Mr Woods at mid-off. Abel had obtained his only three-figure score of the season; in spite of a couple of chances he had played excellently during his stay of three and a quarter hours and had made 14 fours, seven threes and five twos.

Peel joined Lohmann, and although the bowling was varied and Mr Crosfield went on, Lohmann's vigorous play remained unchecked, and he once drove Mr Crosfield over the ring. In a little over an hour 102 runs had been put on. At 286 Lohmann fell to a splendid catch in the long field. He had run up 58 in less than an hour by ten fours, two threes, three twos and six singles. Ulyett was soon clean bowled. Peel and Attewell, however, again completely mastered the bowling, and the 300 was reached shortly after 1 o'clock. Mr Wright at cover-point missed Peel when the latter was 44, and then the score was advanced to 388, at which stage Ulyett declared the Players' innings at an end. Attewell and Peel had obtained 97 in the 45 minutes that they were together, while the last 200 runs had come at the rate of 100 an hour. Mr Woods had three catches missed off him during the morning.

After luncheon the Gentlemen began their second innings; they were 286 behind and there remained two and a half hours for play. Dr Grace and Mr Hewett began the batting and were faced by Attewell and Lohmann. With only six runs recorded the latter held a hard return from Mr Hewett, while Mr Stoddart, who followed in, was brilliantly caught at forward short leg. Mr Palairet joined Dr Grace, but with the figures at 20 the Gloucestershire captain was taken at short slip. Messrs Read and Palairet, however, played well and raised the total to 52; the former was then bowled by Attewell.

More fine batting was shown by Messrs Palairet and O'Brien, and this caused the bowling to be changed at both ends, Martin and Peel going on. Forty-one had been added for the fifth wicket, when Mr Palairet was caught in the long field. Mr Wright stayed to see the 100 appear at 4.50, but was soon after dismissed. At 116 Mr Crosfield was well stumped, after which Messrs O'Brien and Woods played out time and the game was drawn. Mr O'Brien, who had been missed by Chatterton at long-off when he had scored 40, contributed nine fours, three threes and two twos in a superb 57.

Wednesday 14 September, page 4: AN AUSTRALIAN CRICKET TEAM FOR ENGLAND

A Dalziel telegram from Sydney yesterday says that the Cricket Council of Australia have decided to send an eleven to England in 1893.

Thursday 15 September, page 4: THE CLOSE OF THE SEASON

The season to which the festival at Hastings proved a brilliant and fitting close has borne a marked and pleasing contrast not only to that of 1891, but to those of the past few summers. It was during the earlier months that the spells of fine weather gave a plentiful supply of good wickets and long scores. These were followed by a variable August, which became quite a bowler's month, and the batting averages slightly fell.

But cricketers will look back with pleasure to the many fine matches and the general excellence of the season now at an end. While the counties commanded their usual amount of attention, the University, Marylebone and Gentlemen v Players matches awakened all their old interest. Lord's was in particular kindly served by the weather; here the wickets were wonderfully true and great success attended the MCC in their important games. Not a first-class match was lost by them at headquarters, and they defeated all the leading counties which regularly visit them – viz., Notts, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Kent and Sussex. At Lord's, too, Oxford v Cambridge furnished one of the best games in the annals of University cricket.

The matches that come within the description of first-class, and from which the general averages are compiled, are: - The MCC important fixtures, the nine leading counties, the Universities, Gentlemen v Players, North v South, East v West of England, Surrey v England and Married v Single.

A casual glance at these figures will show how good has been the summer. In 1891 no amateur claimed the distinction of scoring 1,000 runs, but this year Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr H T Hewett, Mr L C H Palaret, Mr W W Read and Mr S W Scott all have a four-figure aggregate. As last season, Shrewsbury, Gunn and Abel have each scored their thousand. Before the second innings of the Gentlemen yesterday, Messrs Stoddart and Hewett had tied for the highest aggregate, but amateur and professional, but now the latter heads the list with a majority of four.

Shrewsbury once more secures first position in the tables of both sections; he played nine innings in excess of last summer and scored nearly 200 more runs, but his average of 42 is not so high. Mr Scott follows him pretty closely with 39. This gentleman's very fine batting was one of the features of the season. In fact it needed something out of the ordinary to keep pace with the brilliant feats of Messrs Hewett and Palaret, to whom Somerset owe so much for their position in the list of counties. The former, who captains the western shire, had the sole distinction, too, of making a thousand runs in county matches alone. Both Mr Stoddart and Mr Hewett held comparatively low positions in the list last year.

Mr W H Patterson, who is unable to play so often as his admirers could wish, practically heads the amateurs with a trifling advantage over Mr Scott. Mr Walter Read played in quite his true form, and his fine vigorous batting was an attractive element in the Surrey game. Middlesex also found out more than ever the treasure they possess in the skill of Mr Stoddart, whose best innings were, perhaps, his 91 on the Oval and his 130 for Middlesex against Notts at Lord's. Dr W G Grace, after

figuring for more than a quarter of a century in first-class cricket, still finds himself able to get over a thousand runs, and secures an average of 31, which shows a great improvement on his record of 1891, when it was under 20. Mr T C O'Brien has experienced a fall of nine in his average, and had scored 71 less. Mr Marchant, who was fifth in 1891, has dropped down considerably.

Last year the highest aggregate was credited to Gunn – viz., 1,336. This batsman, while high up and yet possessed of a fine average, has decreased 11 in his figures. A Ward, of Lancashire, has well maintained his position. Henderson has greatly improved, a fact that will not be surprising to those who remember his steadiness and consistency, and his useful 30s and 40s for his county. Mr F S Jackson, Mr E Smith and Wainwright kept Yorkshire's name pretty high, but Ulyett and Peel have been far less successful in the more important games.

Somerset's 592 v Yorkshire was the best score of the year, and among individual feats that of Mr Brann's two scores of 100 in the same match for Sussex against Kent at Brighton, must not be overlooked. There were three 200 scorers – viz., Mr Scott, Shrewsbury and Mr Hewett, while Mr W W Read only missed this achievement by four runs, when he carried out his bat against Sussex.

With batsmen falling upon such good times a repetition of the fine bowling figures of 1891 cannot be expected. The tables plainly show that the bowling skills possessed by the amateurs compares unfavourably with that of the professionals. Mr S M J Woods, of Somerset, however, has a splendid record and is considerably better than his 134 wickets for 2,241 runs of 1891. He outstrips all of his amateur friends in the number of wickets he captured, and is second only to J T Hearne. Mr Woods has in every way sustained his Cambridge reputation in batting, bowling and fielding. Mr J J Ferris, of Australia and Gloucestershire, would seem to have lost none of his art as a bowler, but Messrs Ernest Smith, F S Jackson, W C Hedley, G F H Berkeley and E A Nepean are among the other few good bowlers in the amateur camp.

The champion county furnishes one of the leading bowlers of the year in the person of Lockwood, who has leapt into first position in a remarkable way. It was really only last summer that Surrey discovered the kind of skill possessed by him. In 1891 he only took 47 wickets, but this year he is credited with 151. Lohmann has obtained precisely the same number, but at a cost of 264 more runs. Attewell keeps up his excellent bowling, and in the other 100 wicket men are J T Hearne, Mold, Briggs, Wainwright, Peel and Tyler. Hearne, who was first last year with 129, has obtained the highest number of wickets – 163 – but these have cost four runs more each. An opinion existed that he was worked far too much in the earlier month, and some idea of this may be gleaned from the fact that he sent down 1,360 overs, or only 90 less than the more matured Nottingham player, Attewell.

Martin was much more expensive than in 1891, and took 44 wickets fewer. Sharpe, one of the great bowlers of last year, fell quite below the mark. Walter Humphreys, of Sussex, has far excelled any other lob bowler. It is noteworthy that in 1891 five players – Hearne, Lohmann, Rawlin, Lockwood and Mold – had averages of 12 and under. This year the foremost figure is 13. Good fielding has been a gratifying feature in the season's play.

Tuesday 15 November, page 11: CRICKET: THE KENT COUNTY CLUB

Yesterday, at the Golden Cross Hotel, Charing-cross, the committee met to consider the fixtures and other arrangements for next year. In addition to their usual matches with the leading counties, it was decided to give the Australians two games, providing the latter are a representative team. The Canterbury Week will be devoted to the Australian and Nottinghamshire matches. Surrey will visit Catford Bridge and Yorkshire will play at Blackheath. Lancashire and Sussex will meet Kent at Tonbridge; Middlesex and Somerset play at Gravesend, and Gloucestershire at Maidstone.

Improvements are to be made at the St Lawrence Ground so as to afford the general public more opportunities of comfortably watching the cricket. Mr F Marchant having tendered his resignation of the captaincy, owing to his ill-fortune last season, the committee unanimously resolved to ask him to reconsider his decision.

It was reported that the Notts committee had asked Kent to set apart three days at the end of June for Arthur Shrewsbury's benefit match at Trent Bridge.

The balance-sheet was satisfactory and the subscriptions heavier than in other years.

Friday 18 November, page 7: ESSEX COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

A special general meeting of the members of the Essex County Cricket Club was held yesterday at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street. Mr C E Green presided, and said that the executive, in view of the forthcoming conference of secretaries, had decided to consult the members as to the financial position of the club.

Their liabilities amounted to £2,500. Of this sum £1,300 was an overdraft at their bankers, while there was also a half-year's rent of the county ground, Leyton, due. He mentioned that the ground was originally mortgaged for £10,000, repayable in rent of £400 a year. Neither gate-money nor annual subscriptions had produced the amount necessary for the carrying on of the club, and unless some scheme could be devised there was only one course open, and that was to wind up the club.

A discussion took place. Mr Borrowdaile suggested the raising of debentures to rid the ground both of its liabilities and mortgage; but this idea had already been thought of and rejected by the committee. It was difficult to find the 4 per cent on their mortgage now, so that to pay an increased percentage on a larger sum would be an even greater task. The motion of the committee to wind up the club found no seconders.

Mr J J Read proposed that an attempt should be made to get 60 guarantors of £50 each, and so avoid disbanding the club. This idea was adopted and various promises secured. On these conditions the meeting was adjourned until December 1, every effort to be made meanwhile to secure the number of guarantors. Upon this result will depend whether Essex go to the Lord's meeting next month to arrange a programme for the summer of 1893.

Friday 2 December, page 10: MIDDLESEX COUNTY CLUB

A meeting of this club was held yesterday at the Charing-cross Hotel under the presidency of Mr V E Walker. The financial statement was highly satisfactory. There was a balance of £886 on last season's account and, inclusive of £700 invested in Consols, the funds of the county now amount to some £1,700.

It was decided to adhere to last year's programme as regards the county fixtures for 1893, but a match with the Australians will be made provided the colonials send a representative team.

Friday 2 December, page 10: ESSEX COUNTY CLUB

Yesterday an adjourned meeting was held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, for the consideration of the serious financial position of this club. Mr C E Green presided.

In response to the appeal for 60 guarantors of £50 each, it was announced that nearly £1,500, half the amount required, had been guaranteed. After some discussion it was decided [further to] postpone the meeting until January 3, and meanwhile their representatives should attend at Lord's for the arrangement of fixtures. It is hoped that by the first Tuesday in January the £3,000 necessary to prevent the winding up of the club will have been secured.

The annual meeting of secretaries for the arrangement of next season's fixtures was held yesterday in the members' dining-hall at Lord's. There were present Mr Henry Perkins, secretary of the Marylebone Club (chairman); Mr A J Webbe, Mr I D Walker and Mr C I Thornton, Middlesex; Mr C W Alcock, Mr J Shuter and Mr W W Read, Surrey; Dr W G Grace, Gloucestershire; Mr W H Patterson and Mr A J Lancaster, Kent; Mr W H C Oates and Mr E Browne, Nottinghamshire; Mr H Murray Anderton, Mr T Spencer and Mr H T Hewett, Somerset; Mr P H Latham, Cambridge University; Mr J M'Laren, Mr S H Swire and Mr E B Rowley, Lancashire; Mr M J Ellison and Mr J B Wostinholm, Yorkshire; Mr W Newham and Mr G Goldsmith, Sussex; Mr O R Borradaile and Mr C M Tebbutt, Essex; Hon W M Jervis and Mr N B Delacombe, Derbyshire; Mr H Philipson and J Crawford, Northumberland; Mr W Ansell, Warwickshire; Mr T Burdett and Mr J Bonnor, Leicestershire; Dr Russell-Bencraft, Hampshire; Mr J Horner and Mr H Thornber, Cheshire; Mr R H Mallett, Durham; the Rev G T Warner, Devon; the Rev H T Fortescue and Mr G Wells-Cole, Lincolnshire; Mr P H Foley, Worcestershire; Mr C Pigg, Hertfordshire; Mr T C Slaney, Staffordshire; Mr W L Yorath, Glamorganshire; Mr W H A Worsley, North and East Riding; Mr E G Buxton, Norfolk; Mr T H Vialls, Northamptonshire; Mr H M Turner, Oxfordshire; Mr J W Iliffe, Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire; Mr F T Higgins and Mr G R Ward, Buckinghamshire.

Mr Perkins asked for information about the Australian visit. Mr C W Alcock replied that an Australian team had promised to visit England, and that the Australian Cricket Council had assured him that it would be representative. The feeling among the counties now was that a thorough welcome should be given to the Australians.

The secretaries then devoted themselves to fixtures. Mr Perkins said that four contests between England and Australia had been arranged – at Nottingham, Lord's, the Oval and Manchester. It was imperative that the counties should give up any of their men that were required. If the various executives were unprepared to do this, it would be best to abandon these particular fixtures and cable to the Australians that they would be warmly welcomed, but that representative matches could not be played. The matter then dropped, and the arrangement of fixtures proceeded.

The nine leading counties meet each other twice, but the colonists' tour has prevented any very notable extension of matches between the leading and the less important clubs. The Australians' first appearance will be at Sheffield-park against a team chosen by Lord Sheffield. There are three fixtures with Yorkshire, and two each with Kent, Surrey and Gloucestershire; while the other important counties will each be engaged once. Matches have also been arranged with the Gentlemen, the Players, the North and the South. There will be four matches each at Lord's and the Oval, and one at Leyton.

At Lord's the list of fixtures reaches its usual high standard. Oxford v Cambridge will begin on the first Monday in July; and on the Friday and Saturday of the week following is Eton v Harrow. Gentlemen v Players may suffer through some other important matches on the same day. The Canterbury Week includes Kent v the Australians and Kent v Notts; and the colonial team will also appear at the Cheltenham, Scarborough and, probably, at the Hastings Festivals. A noteworthy change is that the Surrey eleven visit Cambridge University, a match hitherto played at the Oval.