

Wednesday 4 January, page 5: ESSEX COUNTY CLUB

The adjourned meeting to consider the financial position of the Essex club was held yesterday afternoon at the Great Eastern Hotel, Bishopsgate-street. Mr C E Green presided, and there were also present Mr J J Read (treasurer), Mr O R Borrodaile (secretary), Mr A P Lucas, Mr A S Johnston, Mr Pemberton Barnes, Mr H C Borrodaile, Mr C M Tebbutt, Mr Gerald Buxton, Dr Pargy, Mr Crosier-Hayne, Mr J Armstrong and Mr C R Higgins.

Mr Green said that the meeting was fully aware that the adjournment from December 1 had been made in order to increase, if possible, the guarantee fund to £3,000, which was absolutely necessary to enable the club to be carried on. He was sorry to say that, so far, the amount had only reached £1,970; but he had one good piece of news for the meeting. This was that a sportsman who did not wish his identity to become known had promised to give £500 if the other money amounted to £2,500. Of course, unless the £500 necessary to make up this amount were forthcoming in the room the proposal fell through and the club must be wound up. He was bound to say that it would be a lamentable pity to do that when they had so nearly reached the goal. There was little more he could say except that he was really grieved to see so small a display of interest in the county club as was evidenced by the scantily filled room.

The secretary having read the list of guarantors, Mr H C Borrodaile asked whether it was absolutely necessary that the money should be secured at that very moment. He considered that the committee, having been so well backed up, might go on for some time longer. But Mr Buxton, speaking rather for himself than on behalf of the whole committee, said that unless the £3,000 was forthcoming almost at once the club ought to be wound up, and he proposed that this should be done unless the money was secured within a fortnight. Mr Tebbutt supported Mr Buxton, mentioning that they had really no money to go on with, for the guarantee was conditional upon the raising of the full amount, and they had to meet their bankers in June. Messrs Higgins, Armstrong and H C Borrodaile asked that one month should be given for a final attempt to get the balance of the fund.

Mr Green said that he had heard of rumours to the effect of a desire by him to wind up the club. He took the opportunity of stating emphatically that the rumours were absolutely unfounded. Of course, it was a little discouraging to find the club's affairs drag in the manner they did, but he had the good of the county at heart, and he felt sure there was a great future for Essex if they could only tide over their present misfortunes. They had a fine ground and their eleven was rapidly getting stronger.

The following resolution, proposed by Mr Higgins and seconded by Mr H C Borrodaile, was then carried:- "That steps be taken to wind up the club unless the sum of £3,000 be forthcoming by the 1st of February." With a further exhortation from the chairman to the members to do their best for Essex, the meeting terminated.

The state of the guarantee fund is now as follows:- Sums promised, £2,052, and £500 conditional upon this being increased to £2,500. Thus, only £448 is really needed to place the Essex club out of danger of dissolution.

Monday 9 January, page 7: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir, - Referring to the recent meeting of the Essex County Cricket Club, you will much oblige by inserting in your valuable paper the following facts in reference to this club:-

The meeting having decided that it was absolutely necessary to obtain a guarantee fund of at least £3,000 and, failing this, that steps would have to be taken to wind up the club, a resolution was passed that unless the above-mentioned guarantee was obtained on or before February 1, 1893, it would be useless to attempt to carry the club on any longer. The sum of £2,237 1s has been already promised in guarantees and donations, in addition to which the last £500 (conditional on the remainder being raised) has been conditionally promised by a gentleman who does not desire his name to appear, and I appeal to you most earnestly to all sportsmen, and more particularly to those interested in Essex affairs, to assist in finding the additional amount of guarantee required before the above date.

It would indeed be a standing reproof to all sportsmen were the county club now allowed to disappear when within a measurable distance of the required goal. I shall be pleased to furnish further particulars to any interested in the club.

Yours faithfully,
O. R. BORRADAILE, Secretary.

Monday 16 January, page 12: THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKET TEAM

A Dalziel telegram (The Times special), dated Sydney, January 15, says:- “The cricketer Moses has declined to join the representative colonial team which is about to proceed to England.”

Thursday 26 January, page 7: CRICKET

The annual general meeting of the Nottinghamshire Club was held yesterday at the George Hotel, Nottingham. Mr W E Denison presided, and there was a large attendance of members.

According to the report the match expenditure exceeded the match receipts by £123. As there appeared to be some difficulty of securing a representative team for England v Australia as Shrewsbury's benefit match, it was suggested that Gentlemen v Players should be substituted.

Tuesday 7 March, page 11: THE KENT COUNTY CLUB

At the annual meeting of the club, held yesterday at the Golden Cross Hotel, Charing-cross, the committee submitted the report and accounts. The Hon Ivo Bligh, the president, was in the chair, and among others present were Lord Darnley, the Bishop of Dover, the Rev R T Thornton, Rev C E Nepean, Lord Throwley, Major-General Denne, Mr A Akers-Douglas, M.P., Mr F S Cornwallis, M.P., Major Spens, Captain Austin, Captain Lambert and Mr W H Patterson, Mr George Marsham, Mr Leslie Wilson, Mr F Marchant, Mr K M'Alpine, Mr S Christopherson and Mr W P Patterson.

The decline in the fortunes of the county eleven last summer was attributed in a great degree to the inability of many of the gentlemen to play frequently. There is a club membership of 930, and the subscription brought in last year a larger sum than in any previous season. During the Canterbury Week the receipts were in excess of other years in which only county cricket was played. The profits of the week were £752. At other places in the county where matches were decided the receipts were not so good as usual, owing to bad weather and the matches being short. The Surrey game at Tonbridge yielded over £100 towards the Pentecost benefit fund.

The general statement of accounts show a balance of £1,250. The report and accounts were adopted, and a sub-committee appointed to consider the present privileges of members of the Kent Club.

Friday 31 March: THE COMING CRICKET SEASON

Easter is early this year, but fine weather and good cricket are such close friends that the beautiful spring days have ripened the inclination for the summer game. The grass at Lord's has already been cut and groundsmen generally are mostly hoping for another week's dryness and then for the soft April showers.

Under these happy conditions are the season's prospects talked of. The Australians will again be with us, and though the novelty of their visits has long since gone, the addition year which has been placed between this and the last tour will beneficially affect the attraction of the team that comes over with the highest cricket credentials. Any complaining about an interference with the counties' programme is childish, for the county championship is necessarily the chief event of the season. Memories of the great games of Surrey, Nottinghamshire and Somersetshire are easily awakened, and also of the fine fight in the University match, mention of which reminds us that the same sterling cricketers as last year have been re-elected to lead again the Oxford and Cambridge elevens.

From Lord's comes the news of a further increase in the strength of the ground staff. Everything is in a forward state and the turf has never looked better at this time of the year. Under the light dressing of soil put on last autumn the turf has certainly thriven. Visitors in the coming season will note the removal of the score-box from its old place in front of the printing-offices to the stand on the left of the Press. The change will be especially appreciated by those on the Grand Stand who on the big days were unfortunate enough to have their view of some of the cricket obstructed by the scoring-box and its side apparatus.

The Marylebone programme is of its customary complete nature. Wheeler, one of their oldest hands, is to be given a benefit, and the match set apart for him is that between the M.C.C. and Notts, which opens on the Wednesday of the anniversary meeting and dinner. Apart from the Middlesex fixture the Australians will play four matches at Lord's, on which ground they make their first appearance in London in their game with Marylebone. Most of the leading counties will, as in other years, play the M.C.C., while the last week in June will be devoted to the matches with the Universities, Oxford taking three days for their fixture this season. Oxford v Cambridge begins on Monday, July 3, and Eton v Harrow on the Friday week following. Gentlemen and Players and England v Australia are fixed for July 10 and 17.

The Marylebone club continues its policy of sending elevens to play most of the schools, and these games chiefly help to swell the present list of out-matches to something like 120. The ground staff embraces Thomas Hearne, Farrands, Clayton, Rylott, George Hearne, Wheeler, Sherwin, T Mycroft, W Hearn, Flowers, Price, Barnes, Gunn, Scotton, Hay, Fothergill, W Attewell, Parnham, Burton, Pickett, Davenport, Pentecost, Titchmarsh, Chatterton, J E West, Martin, Pougher, Rawlin, A Hearne, Carlin, Davidson, Phillips, Shacklock, Richardson, Whitehead, Whiteside, Barnes, Bean, Moorhouse, Needham, J T Hearne, Geeson, Board, Mead, Mee and Carpenter.

The Australian team, the majority of whose members are now on their way to England in the Orizaba, of the Orient Line, seems to have given general satisfaction as to its constitution. Three years have elapsed since the colonies sent a side to this country. The cricketers will receive a warm welcome, and the representative nature of the side will undo some of the harm which the frequency of the visits threatened to engender. Indeed, to right themselves with public opinion, they must play games approaching at least the characteristics of the great tours in 1882 and 1884.

With the management of the trip in the hands of the Australian council we have a sound guarantee of the sincerity of the wish to uphold the good name of Australian cricket. After the selection of the sub-committee had been confirmed by the council it was decided to add a fourteenth player in the person of Mr A Coningham, of New South Wales. It is worthy of remark that in their notification to English clubs the council stated that excepting Mr H Moses all Australians cricketers had been available for selection. Thus we may take it that the side is, with this solitary selection, the best that Australia can at present produce.

Only four of the men are fresh to English cricket grounds – viz., Mr H Graham, Victoria; Mr A Coningham, New South Wales; Mr Walter Giffen, South Australia; and Mr R M'Leod, Victoria. Mr J M'C Blackham, who has been described as the king of wicket-keepers, and Mr A Bannerman, the batsman of so much skill and patient defence and the fine field at mid-off, came over with the first team 15 years ago. Mr George Giffen, who showed some wavering before he decided to come, is undoubtedly the greatest cricketer on the side, and spectators will look with some eagerness for the display of his skill with the bat and ball. Mr A H Jarvis comes as reserve wicket-keeper. It will perhaps seem a little strange to find Mr C T B Turner bowling without his old colleague Mr Ferris at the opposite end. All the new men arrive with good repute, especially Mr H Graham (a batsman) and Mr M'Leod.

The full list of players is as follows: - Messrs G Giffen, W Giffen, A H Jarvis and J J Lyons, South Australia; Messrs H Trumble, H Trott, J M'C Blackham, W Bruce, H Graham and R M'Leod, Victoria; and Messrs C T B Turner, S E Gregory, A C Bannerman and A Coningham, New South Wales. Mr Victor Cohen is the manager. Mitcham-common is mentioned as the likely practice ground of the Australians. It may be noted that eight of the members of the team – Messrs Bannerman, G Giffen, Lyons, Turner, Bruce, Trott, M'Leod and Blackham – had a share in the double victory of Australia over Lord Sheffield's team at Melbourne and Sydney in the early weeks of last year, while Mr Walter Giffen took a part in the success at Sydney.

Mr C W Alcock, the secretary of the Surrey Club, in arranging the programme, has gone on much the same lines as in other years. All the leading counties will be met, and some of them twice. Lord Sheffield will place the first eleven in the field against them at Sheffield Park on May 8, while their match at Lord's with Marylebone on the 16th is the first in the Metropolitan district. There are to be four other matches at Lord's – viz., v the Players, the Gentlemen, Middlesex and All England; while at the Oval they play Surrey twice, South of England and England. Thus will Londoners have plenty of opportunities of seeing them. Three representative matches have been definitely arranged at Lord's, the Oval and Manchester; and the question of a fourth, to take place at Nottingham, remains to be settled by the Australians themselves. The team visit Canterbury at the beginning of the "Week," and also take part in the festivals at Cheltenham, Scarborough and Hastings. The England v Australia matches will be followed with great interest, if only from the fact that the Englishmen have the old scores which they brought with them from Australia last year for which to retaliate.

Mr L C H Palaret, who has taken a very high position in the cricketing world, is for the second year captain at Oxford. It is an honour rarely bestowed upon a player for two years; but thoroughly merited in this case by the great ability shown by Mr Palaret in the skilful handling of his eleven last summer. He will be able to command the services of the following blues who are in residence: - Mr G F K Berkeley, Keble; Mr W H Brain, Oriel; Mr T B Case, Magdalen; Mr V T Hill, Oriel; Mr J B Wood, Balliol; Mr R T Jones, New; Mr C B Fry, Wadham; Mr T S B Wilson, Trinity; and Mr F A Phillips, Exeter. Indeed the only member of the victorious side of 1892 who is not available is

Mr M R Jardine, one of the heroes of last year's game at Lord's in batting and fielding. Messrs A J Boger and H D Watson, who played in 1891 at Lord's, are still at Oxford. Of the most likely seniors the following may be mentioned – Mr R C N Palairret, Oriel; Mr R W Rice, Jesus; Mr F A G Leveson-Gower, Magdalen; Mr C W Little, New College; and Mr H M Taberer, Keble, all of whom have represented the University in one or other of the trial matches.

There is a great influx of good freshmen. Winchester sends Mr H D G Leveson-Gower, Magdalen, whose school average was 37 for 14 innings, and Mr R P Lewis, University. The latter will be remembered for the fine style and effect of his wicket-keeping, notably in the Eton v Winchester matches of 1891 and 1892. Mr G O Smith, the Charterhouse captain, has gone up to Keble; he is a fine, free bat and last year made 229 against Westminster. For 16 completed innings he averaged 43.11. Another batsman of good repute is the captain of Wellington, Mr G J Mordaunt, University, who made 637 runs in 14 finished innings. Mr P F Warner, Rugby and Oriel; Mr G B Raikes, Shrewsbury and Magdalen (school batting average 42 for 13 innings); and Mr H K Foster, Malvern and Trinity (school average 37 for 14 innings), all come up with big reputations. It is a long while since Oxford had so much talent at their disposal; and the choice of the team will be a very difficult matter. With the exception of Surrey the old fixtures have been renewed, while the Australians play at Oxford on the first three days of June. After the University match the team will visit Ireland and contest a game with Dublin University.

Mr F S Jackson, of Trinity College, is again captain at Cambridge University. The other blues in residence next term are P H Latham, Pembroke (hon. secretary); C M Wells, Trinity; Mr G J V Weigall, Emmanuel; Mr L H Gay, Clare; Mr H R Bromley-Davenport, Trinity Hall; and Mr J Douglas, Selwyn. Mr A J L Hill, Jesus, is doubtful. It will be seen that Cambridge have lost Messrs R N Douglas, E C Streatfeild and D L A Jephson. Mr Streatfeild's bowling and batting will be greatly missed. The best seniors up are the Hon M G Tollemache, Mr A R Hoare, Mr E Field, Mr K S Ranjitsinhji and Mr C G Pope, all at Trinity and, with the exception of the last-named, who is a good bowler, all batsmen. Mr A O Jones, Jesus, whom Notts though sufficiently good to play for them, will be sure to have an opportunity in the trial matches. Mr J J Stogdon, Clare; Mr J J Robinson, St John's; and Mr T N Perkins, Jesus, are also batsmen of considered merit.

In the matter of freshmen Cambridge are scarcely so fortunate as Oxford. Another Studd (Mr R A) goes up from Eton to Trinity with a school record for batting of 14 innings, 216 runs, highest score 85, twice not out, average 18. Mr C J L Rudd, of Trinity, was the most effective of the Harrow bowlers last summer, his 37 wickets averaging 10 runs each. Mr P R Creed, of Trinity, did well in batting for Marlborough with an aggregate of 334 and an average of 25.9. Mr W M'G Hemingway, of Uppingham and King's, had the best school record – viz., 13 innings, 637 runs, highest score 164, two not-outs, average 57.10. Charterhouse send up Mr G S Wilson, Pembroke, and Mr E B Winch, Trinity, both pretty good batsmen; while Mr J A Healing, Clifton and Pembroke, is also a batsman. Cambridge play much the same programme as in 1892; but the Surrey match will be decided on the University ground instead of at the Oval, while the Australians will be met on June 12.

The illness of George Lohmann caused widespread regret among cricketers, and the news of a great improvement in his health will be warmly welcomed. Maurice Read, whom the Surrey executive sent to accompany Lohmann to the Cape, returns soon, while Lohmann speaks of being back himself and of playing in June. Surrey will necessarily severely feel in the early matches the loss of their fine all-round cricketer, but they have strong reserve talent both in amateurs and professionals.

Mr John Shuter will again captain the side, and will be supported by most of last year's men, the list including Mr Read, Mr Key, Mr Clarke, Mr C M Wells, Abel, Henderson, Lockwood, Maurice Read, Wood, Richardson, Baldwin, Brockwell, Sharpe, Ayres and Watts. With Lohmann away the brunt of the attack will most likely be borne by Lockwood, who did so well last summer, and Richardson, the new fast bowler. A return to form by Sharpe would be greatly appreciated by the friends of Surrey.

The match list, apart from the additions of the Australian fixtures, varies little from other years. The two Bank Holidays are, as usual, reserved for the contests with Nottinghamshire. There will be two games with the Colonials, while for the second Monday in August the England and Australia match is fixed. The centre of the Oval has been returfed and it is hoped that there will be a larger supply of good wickets than in 1892.

The wonderful career of the Notts eleven last summer leaves little room for anxiety about their coming cricket. Easter Monday will, as usual, be devoted to the trial of colts, and early in May the young players will receive a further opportunity of displaying their skill by a meeting with Yorkshire colts. The list of county matches follows pretty closely on the lines of other years. There will be home and home matches with the leading counties, with a single fixture with the Marylebone Club at Lord's, beginning, contrary to custom, on Wednesday instead of Thursday. This game opens the season at headquarters. Warwickshire will be given a match at Birmingham, and Leicestershire at Leicester. The Australians are to visit Trent-bridge twice, in the first instance for Arthur Shrewsbury's benefit. There has been some hesitation in fixing the character of this match, as it is doubtful whether the Australians would like to engage more than three representative English teams; but if England is not played for the benefit, then the Colonials will probably meet the county eleven. The matter is left for the decision of the Australians, and thus Mr C W Alcock has arranged to keep open June 26, 27 and 28 in their programme.

Practice has already begun on the Trent-bridge ground, and the executive believe that the public will give a better and more enthusiastic support to their fine side. At the annual meeting and elsewhere the residents of Nottinghamshire have been exhorted to spend a little time for the county players. For some while the general public has certainly shown only a lethargic interest in the doings of the cricketers, a fact that is not easily understood when brought side by side with the great number of hood men that are perpetually appearing. Last December the committee decided to make a thorough canvass for new members in every part of the county, and during the spring 100 have already joined, as also a few life members at £20 each.

The committee will in the main depend on all the old hands, with Mr J A Dixon as captain. Shrewsbury, Barnes, Gunn, Flowers, Shacklock, H B Daft, Attewell and Sherwin are all reported well. The new man this year will be R J Mee, who goes to Lord's. He is a good fast bowler, and of late has come on considerably as a batsman. Mr A O Jones, of Cambridge University, will be again available, as also Mr Sanford Robinson. The excellent condition of the turf at Trent-bridge promises good wickets in plenty.

Somerset will in the coming season meet the other first-class counties in out and home matches. The Oxford University fixture is again on the list, but that with Cambridge has not been renewed. They also have a game with the Australians in July at Taunton, a fixture that has only once before taken place – in 1882. The team will be constituted in much the same way as last year, with Mr H T Hewett again as captain. Mr C J Robinson is, however, going abroad, but Mr Hedley will probably

assist the team in July and August. The other players available will be Messrs L C H Palairt, J B Challen, G Fowler, V T Hill, S M J Woods, A E Newton, C E Winter, C Dunlop and W N Roe, and the Rev A P Wickham, with Tyler, Nichols and Hale.

The ground at Taunton is looking well, and the accommodation for members and the public is being improved. The club, too, is in a good financial position, thanks to the very liberal support given at the close of last season. With the same display of fielding and batting and with the bowlers in good form the side should again take a high position among the powerful teams.

The Lancashire eleven has been so consistently good for some years past that their friends should enter upon the new season with every confidence. And this trust has other causes for justification. In the side most of the leading members have scarcely reached what may be termed the prime of cricketing life. Albert Ward, Frank Sugg, A Smith, Baker, Frank Ward, Briggs, Mold and Yates furnish a fine nucleus for the team. Then the veteran Watson will doubtless be found of service in the attack; occasionally, too, he has been of inestimable value in getting a score of runs when his side has been hard pressed. The amateur contingent is also strong – Messrs A C Maclaren, S M Crosfield and A T Kemble, the last of whom kept wicket splendidly throughout the season, worthily filling the vacancy caused by the loss of Richard Pilling. Mr A N Hornby only played in four matches last year, and his partial withdrawal from important games leaves a great gap in the cricket field, of which we shall be the more reminded this season by the visit of the Australians, against whom in the earlier tours he always played so vivaciously. In his absence Mr S M Crosfield will no doubt captain the eleven. The staff of professionals at Old Trafford embraces A Mold, G Yates, E Holland, T Irving, T Lord, W Pilling and F Hill; with the new men A and H Tinsley, Leyland; H Heaton, Colne; G Wharmby, Formby; S Moss, Merthyr Tydvil; H Bowyer, Cambridge; and A W Hallam, Leicester. Frank Ward will join in August.

The county programme has undergone a change since the meeting of secretaries, and Yorkshire will now visit Old Trafford on the August Bank Holiday. The home match with Somerset will be played at Aigburth, Liverpool, and Gloucestershire, after a lapse of two years, again appear at Manchester instead of at Liverpool. There are to be the usual fixtures with Oxford University, while, in addition to the county versus Australians during the last week in May, the Colonials play the North of England on June 29, and the third match with England on August 24, at Old Trafford.

Lord Hawke having decided to remain in India during the summer, Yorkshire will find it necessary to appoint another captain. Mr F S Jackson will no doubt be asked to undertake the office. The wide experience secured by his captaincy both at Harrow and Cambridge, and his great skill as a batsman as bowler give him every qualification for the position. There is this to be said – that his duties at Cambridge University, where he is still captain, may prevent his playing in the early county matches.

Yorkshire's career last summer was in some degree disappointing. The side possessed no lack of talent in batting and bowling, and during May and the greater part of June their brilliant triumphs seemed to herald a great record. But the tide of good fortune, after flowing so strongly for them, turned when they had gained a wonderful victory over Middlesex. Wainwright, Peel, Ulyett, Tunnicliffe, Wardill, Mounsey, J T Brown, Moorhouse, L Hall and D Hunter will probably furnish the professional element in the side. G H Hirst, who did very well in the early part of last year, will no doubt be given a further trial. Besides Mr F S Jackson, the amateurs include Mr A Sellers, Mr Ernest Smith and Mr R W Frank. The left-hand fast bowler, so much desired, has not yet shown

himself; but several fast right-hand men have applied to play in the colts' matches.

No effort has been spared to get the various grounds in the county – the matches are distributed among seven places – into good order and, from what can be remembered of last summer, the Bramall-lane enclosure, the headquarters of Yorkshire cricket, certainly needed a good deal of attention. It is hoped, however, that the new turf with which the ground has been relaid will furnish some wickets worthy of the old traditions of Sheffield. The first big match at Sheffield is not until the August Bank Holiday, when the county opposes the Colonials. Leeds and Bradford are the other places at which Australia plays Yorkshire. In addition to the leading shires, Yorkshire meet Marylebone, Cambridge University, Leicestershire, Essex, Warwickshire, Derbyshire and Durham.

The brilliant cricket so often shown in 1892 by the great amateur talent of Middlesex should be as frequently repeated during the cricket season, when Mr A J Webbe, the captain, hopes to have the services of all last year's members. The large crowds which went up to Lord's to see the Middlesex games bore testimony to the excellence of the play. Mr A E Stoddart, Mr S W Scott, Mr G M'Gregor, Mr T C O'Brien, Mr P J T Henery, Mr M R Jardine, Mr E A Nepean, Mr R S Lucas, the Hon F J N Thesiger, Mr F G J Ford, with the captain and the professionals – J T Hearne, Rawlin, Phillips and J E West – comprise a remarkable list of fine players. Mr P J de Paravicini only played once last summer and his long fielding was much missed. Mr J H Roberts, who is perhaps better known in the Rugby Union football world than at cricket, rendered the side good service in the Brighton match with Sussex, when he scored 35 by some hard driving. Mr M'Gregor will be able to play throughout the season, and this will be a great help to the county.

In the arrangement of the programme the old lines have been observed. The Lord's Whit Monday match between Middlesex and Somerset has become a permanent and popular fixture, and this year the return game will take place on the first Monday in August at Taunton. The Australian fixture at Lord's has been altered to a few days earlier than the date given at the secretaries' meeting. Lancashire and Kent will appear at headquarters for the Middlesex matches in August; the games with Surrey are on May 25 and the Oval and June 22 at Lord's.

The misfortunes of Kent last summer were not wholly the fault of the club. The handicap caused by the inability of some of the leading amateurs to devote much time to cricket was felt with more severity than ever, while as a further loss, and one not easily measured, was the ill-luck of Mr F Marchant, the captain. Walter Hearne did good work in bowling; but what the county gained in this respect was counterbalanced by the deterioration in the skill of Martin and Walter Wright. The county has refused to accept Mr Marchant's resignation of the captaincy in the early matches, and all cricketers will wish this brilliant batsman a quick return to form. During the coming season the selection of the elevens and the management of county matches will be, as last year, in the hands of Messrs Patterson and Marchant. They will command the services of all last year's men, among whom were Messrs G J V Weigall, J Le Fleming, W L Knowles, H M Braybrooke, H C Stewart, C J M Fox, E Malden, M C Kemp, L Wilson and L A Hamilton, with A, G G and W Hearne, Martin and Wright.

The programme includes matches with the other leading counties, a visit to Lord's to meet the M.C.C. and two fixtures with the Australians. The latter play at Gravesend and Canterbury, while Somerset and Surrey appear at Taunton and Catford-bridge. The Canterbury week should equal its predecessors in excellence of sport with such good matches as Kent v Australians and Kent v Notts.

During the winter a slope on the south side of the St Lawrence Ground at Canterbury has been extended, and four more rows of seats will be put up from the telegraph office to the members' enclosure, and these will accommodate 760 people; the slope being continued some 20 yards at the back of the seats, people walking behind will be able to get a view of the cricket. Apart from Canterbury, the grounds upon which matches will be played are Maidstone, Tonbridge, Beckenham, Blackheath, Gravesend and Catford. Colts will be afforded facilities for practice, and a couple of second eleven matches may be arranged. Sir John Honeywood is the president of the club for 1893.

Gloucestershire hope to have the services of all their old players – viz., Dr W G Grace, Dr E M Grace, Mr R W Rice, Mr S A P Kitcat, Mr O G Radcliffe, Mr J J Ferris, Captain A H Luard, Mr H V Page and Mr A C M Croome, with Painter, Roberts, Woof, Murch and Board. It is expected that Mr Ferris will do much better in bowling. Dr E M Grace writes that “W.G.” has been pretty regular in hunting with the Clifton Foot Beagles and that he is in very good health, while he is as keen as ever about cricket. Mr A J Atfield, a useful bat and field, is qualified, and may receive a trial together with Mr W M Hemingway. Mr C S Rome, the captain of Harrow School, is also eligible for Gloucestershire. Indeed, the prospects of the western county are certainly bright.

Apart from the addition of two fixtures with the Australians, the list of matches has been planned on much the same lines as in previous years. Only the first-class counties will be met. The home matches will be distributed between Bristol, Clifton, Gloucestershire and Cheltenham. Somerset and the Australians should furnish interesting cricket for the Cheltenham week. Late in August a team of University and Public School players will oppose eleven others who have not taken part in a county match. This game will be decided at Bristol.

Mr W L Murdoch will captain Sussex during the coming season. The services of the famous Australian should greatly aid in brightening the prospects of the side, whose disastrous career in 1892 must have been keenly felt by both the cricketers themselves and by those whose generosity and help have been given with so much freedom. Messrs G Brann, W Newham, G L Wilson, C A Smith, W G Heasman and W H Andrews will be again available, while the professionals Bean, Marlow, Guttridge, Butt, J Hide and Tate will again figure in the side. R Lowe, a fast left-hand bowler, is now qualified to play under the residence rule, and by his inclusion in the team it is hoped [materially to] strengthen the attack.

Last season's programme is repeated, with the addition of the Australian match. Oxford and Cambridge Universities teams both visit Brighton to play Sussex, who go up to Lord's on May 15 for the annual game with the M.C.C. The ground at Hove is in splendid condition and the wickets promise to be thoroughly in keeping with the Brighton standard.

Essex have gone through a great financial crisis since last summer, but the guarantee fund of £3,000 has enabled them to tide over their difficulties. A good programme has been arranged, including a match between Cambridge University Past and Present and the Australians, to be played at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton. With the capital side at their command Essex ought to do well in the coming season.

Derbyshire expect to have the same team as last year, and as the club is at length out of debt the outlook is much brighter than in some former seasons. Among their engagements they meet Surrey,

Yorkshire and Lancashire.

Warwickshire will have Diver, Quaife and Whitehead to play regularly for them this season, and these men should materially strengthen the side, which will again be captained by Mr H W Bainbridge. The Australians visit Birmingham, and Surrey, Notts and Yorkshire also play at the Edgbaston ground. It is pleasing to report that the club is now out of debt.

Mr H W Forster, M.P., has resigned the captaincy of the Hampshire team on account of his Parliamentary duties, and Dr Russell Bencraft has been elected to succeed him. The eleven will be selected from the following: - Captain Barton, Dr W Bencraft, Mr F E Lacey, Mr H W Forster, Captain Wynyard, Major Bethune and Messrs D A Steele, A J L Hill, L H Gay, C Robson, A C Richards and C J R Richards, with Barton, Soar, Baldwin and Cave. The Southampton ground has undergone some improvement. Regarding the programme, the list is much the same as last year, with the exception that Warwickshire replaces Oxfordshire and a match has been arranged with Devonshire.

Leicestershire, Cheshire, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Devonshire and Durham all have good match lists.

Mr J R Mason is captain at Winchester. The Eton and Winchester match will be played at Eton on June 23 and 24.

4 April: THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COLTS' MATCH

(Potted scores) THE COLTS 117 (Shacklock 7/29, Flowers 9/40) and 73 (Flowers 10 wkts, S Hardy 4 wkts). THE ELEVEN 258 (Shrewsbury 62, Gunn 50, Flowers 32, J A Dixon 22, H B Daft 26, R J Mee 37*). The Eleven won by an innings and 63 runs.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 4 April, page 8)

Easter weather at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, has not often been so favourable as it was yesterday, when, on a fast wicket, the usual trial of colts was begun. There were several thousand spectators and, after the colts had been disposed of, there was some very fine batting by Shrewsbury and Gunn. The former played with all his well-known finish, but Gunn in two instances was let off.

Shacklock and Flowers were effective with the ball and were chiefly the means of getting out the young players in three hours. Hardy and Marriott showed, perhaps, the best batting for the colts. Attewell and Mr A O Jones were absent from the county team, in which Mee, the fast bowler, appeared.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 April, page 11)

The Trent Bridge ground, Nottingham, was yesterday again the scene of good cricket. The young players, few of whom showed any form worthy of special notice, were beaten by an innings and 63 runs.

4 April: GLOUCESTERSHIRE COLTS' MATCH

(Potted scores) COLTS 121 (J A Healing 42; J J Ferris 11/48, W G Grace 7/30) and 139 (E A P Sainsbury 23, H Carter 26; J J Ferris 10 wkts, W G Grace 4 wkts). THE COUNTY TEAM 295 (R W Rice 41, J J Ferris 33, H W Murch 34, W H Brain 26, Atfield 48, Roberts 26*; A B Champain 4 wkts). The County Team won by an innings and 35 runs.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 4 April, page 8)

Yesterday at the county ground, Bristol, the annual trial of Gloucestershire colts was begun. Healing for the colts did very well, although his innings was marred by a couple of chances. The eleven got out their rivals in about three hours. Dr W G Grace fared badly in batting [Note: he scored 2], but Mr Rice played steadily, and Mr Ferris and Murch hit vigorously.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 5 April, page 11)

A capital innings of 48 by Atfield, the new professional of the Gloucestershire eleven, was perhaps the most interesting feature in the concluding day's play of the trial of colts on the county ground at Bristol. Some of the young cricketers fared well in batting, but the majority found the bowling of Mr Ferris very difficult. The county won by an innings and 35 runs.

27 April: THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS

The Orient liner Orizaba reached Tilbury about 7 o'clock last evening. Among the passengers landed were the majority of the Australian team, with their manager, Mr Victor Cohen. As in previous years, the headquarters of the side will be the Tavistock Hotel, Covent-garden. Practice begins on Monday next at Mitcham.

Regarding the captaincy no definite choice has yet been made. It is understood that the matter will be settled at a meeting of the team to-day.

1 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY – THE SENIORS' MATCH

(Potted scores) MR A J BOGER'S SIDE 551 (R W Rice 132, B L Richmond 50, A L Nelson 82, A J Boger 26, W S Case 21, L C V Bathurst 73, R H Raphael 36, F Street 59; A W F Ratty 3 wkts). MR R C N PALAIRET'S SIDE 198 (F A G Leveson-Gower 47, L Mortimer 40, J Conway 60; A J Boger 4 wkts) and 287 (R C N Palaret 55, C J R Richards 54, J Conway 21, A W F Ratty 78, G Field 49; A J Boger 4 wkts, L C V Bathurst 3 wkts). Mr A J Boger's Side won by an innings and 66 runs.

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

Mr A J Boger, who was in the eleven that lost to Cambridge in 1891, and Mr R C N Palaret, a brother of the Oxford captain, had charge of the Seniors' Teams in the annual trial at Oxford yesterday.

It proved quite a batsman's day, and Mr Boger's side going in first remained at the wickets the whole of cricket hours, and even then lost little more than half their players. Mr R W Rice, who did so well in some of Gloucestershire's matches last year, profited greatly by an early escape. He was in four hours and showed excellent form for 132, in which were 17 fours, five threes and 12 twos. Messrs Nelson and Richmond also scored rapidly, and the former's 82 included 14 fours, three threes and two twos.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 May, page 11)

Good batting again furnished the characteristic of the play in this match at Oxford yesterday. Mr Boger's side, who had scored 354 for six wickets, went on with their innings, and the remaining men added nearly 200 runs. Mr R H Raphael, of Wellington and Magdalen, batted vigorously, making eight fours; but the partnership which gave most trouble was that between Messrs Bathurst and Street. During the hours that these players were together 120 runs were put on. Mr Bathurst made ten and Mr Street 12 fours. Every one reached double figures.

When Mr Palaret's side went in fine form was shown by Messrs Leveson-Gower, Mortimer and Conway Rees. Mr Leveson-Gower contributed nine and Mr Conway Rees eight fours. Rain came on towards the close and stumps were drawn . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 4 May, page 1)

Yesterday, in the Parks at Oxford, the first of the University trial matches was brought to a close. The innings of Mr Palaret's side quickly ended, Mr Conway Rees, who had played so well on the previous evening, failing to improve his score.

Following on against a majority of 353, the team fared better. Messrs Richards and Palaret both batted successfully, while afterwards there was a fine stand of 118 by Messrs Ratty and Field. In Mr Ratty's 78 were 13 fours. Despite their capital form, Mr Palaret's team were beaten by an innings and 66 runs.

1 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY – THE FRESHMEN’S MATCH

(Potted scores) MR F S JACKSON’S SIDE 429 (P R Creed 28, J Burrough 33, F S Horan 114*, C D Robinson 45, G S Wilson 125; R Pye 6 wkts, P H Latham 3 wkts) and 14/0. Mr P H LATHAM’S SIDE 206 (L S Westall 21, R A Studd 21, S L Hinde 76*; C J L Rudd 4 wkts, P Levick 3 wkts) and 236 (J Healing 83, L S Westall 34, A R Whitwell 26; J Burrough 7/50, W M Hemingway 3 wkts). Mr Jackson’s Side won by twelve wickets.

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

Some capital batting was seen on the first day of the Freshmen’s match at Cambridge, yesterday, when the sides were captained by Mr F S Jackson and Mr P H Latham. The honours were carried off by Mr F S Horan, of Wellington and Trinity Hall, who ran so well in the three miles race at the University sports at the Queen’s Club, and Mr G S Wilson, an old Carthusian, who put together 202 in two hours. Mr Wilson’s brilliant innings was then closed by a catch in the slips for 125; his chief hits were a five and 17 fours. Mr Horan was not out at the close of the day.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 May, page 11)

Yesterday’s cricket on the University ground at Cambridge did not possess the brilliancy that was seen on Monday, when Mr Jackson’s team of Freshmen made 392 for nine wickets. Mr Horan, who had obtained 114, added 19 and was not out. The chief hits in a capital display were nine fours, ten threes and 11 twos. Mr Pye’s six for 94 was the best bowling analysis.

There was nothing very striking in the early play of Mr Latham’s side. Subsequently Mr Hinde batted excellently, and aided by his captain made 88 for the last wicket. His not-out 76 embraced eight fours, three threes and 12 twos. Mr J Healing met with considerable success when Mr Latham’s team followed on with arrears of 223.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 4 May, page 1)

The position of the game overnight at Cambridge did not point to a very long day’s play yesterday, when, with 11 wickets to fall, Mr Latham’s side wanted 147 to avoid defeat by an innings. Mr Healing, who had made 43, again batted well, although he was a little fortunate and gave more than one chance in the slips. Mr Rudd at last bowled him for 88, in which were eight fours, five threes and eight twos.

After luncheon the match was finished in about an hour, Mr Jackson’s side winning by 12 wickets. The bowling of Mr Burrough, whose analysis was seven for 50, stood out as a feature of the day.

1 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COLTS v YORKSHIRE COLTS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/189/189648.html)

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

The annual match between the young players of Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire began yesterday at Bramall-lane, Sheffield. Yorkshire had the advantage of first innings, but the majority of the side were not very successful against the bowling of Bennett and Hardy, whose analyses came out pretty well. Rain stopped the game . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 3 May, page 11)

The best point in this match at Sheffield yesterday was rather in the closeness of the finish than for anything of more than average merit in the batting. For Notts S Hardy was again a very effective bowler, his five wickets costing only 19 runs. Squires took five of the visitors' wickets for 33.

Notts, who went in to get 104 to win, were beaten within three minutes of "Time" by eight runs. The last pair of batsmen had made seven.

Tuesday 2 May, page 11: THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS

The whole of the Australians, accompanied by Mr Victor Cohen, the manager, visited Mitcham yesterday and began practice on the village green. A very good day's work was recorded. Going down by the 10.43 train from Victoria, the players were able to begin cricket soon after 1 o'clock, and the practice was continued until late in the afternoon. Some of their batsmen, notably Mr Lyons, indulged in hard hitting. During the morning Mr George Giffen, in bowling to Mr Turner, had the ball driven hard back to him and received a severe blow just above the right knee. Mr Giffen, however, continued to play after luncheon.

On Thursday next the team will be the guests at dinner of the Sports Club, 8, St James's square, S.W.

Wednesday 3 May, page 11: THE MARYLEBONE CLUB

The annual general meeting will be held to-day at Lord's, at 5.30. Mr W E Denison, Mr C E Farmer, Sir A W L Hemming and Mr W H Patterson have been duly nominated to fill the vacancies on the committee. The meeting will be made special to consider the recommendation of the committee to alter Rule IX of the club as follows: -

“The committee may elect 160 candidates in each year; of this number 80 may be brought forward out of their regular turn on account of their cricketing qualifications and their expressed desire to play for the club. Not more than 14 candidates shall be put up at any ballot unless there has not been a quorum of the committee at the previous ballot, when the lists for both elections shall be brought forward together. The proportion of cricketing to ordinary candidates at any ballot shall be at the discretion of the committee.” The remainder of the rule as at present.

Wednesday 3 May, page 11: THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS

Practice was resumed yesterday on the lower green at Mitcham. With the exceptions of Messrs Turner, Trott and Bannerman the side were all engaged. Mr George Giffen, who received a severe blow just above the right knee, on Monday, went down by the 1.45 from Victoria; beyond a little stiffness as the result of the bruise, he was in capital health, and late in the afternoon took a spell of bowling.

3 May: M.C.C. AND GROUND v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3918.html)

Wednesday 3 May, page 11

The season opens to-day with this match, in which Marylebone will be represented by Messrs A N Hornby, John Shuter, W L Murdoch, C E de Trafford, J H Hornsby and A J L Hill, with J T Hearne, Chatterton, Martin, Storer and Pougher.

Notts will play the following team: - Mr C W Wright (captain), Shrewsbury, Barnes, Gunn, Flowers, Attewell, Sherwin, Shacklock, Mee, H B Daft and Hardy. The gate money will be devoted to the benefit fund for J Wheeler, the Marylebone and Leicester professional.

Day 1 (report from Thursday 4 May, page 11)

Cricketers will hope that the brightness of the play and the fine weather with which the season was ushered in yesterday, at Lord's, are the heralds of a good summer.

There was no lack of variety in the thoroughly excellent cricket. The fine hitting of Mr de Trafford, the finished batting of Gunn, the good innings of Barnes and Shacklock, the bowling of Attewell and J T Hearne, the clean fielding and smart wicket-keeping left few points of the game without illustration. There were several thousand spectators, and John Wheeler, to whom the Marylebone Club are devoting the gate money as a benefit, should profit by the attractive stage in which the game rests.

The club had a very good side, included in which were the captains of Surrey, Lancashire, Sussex and Leicestershire, while the county also put in the field a powerful eleven.

Day 2 (report from Friday 5 May, page 11)

At Lord's, yesterday, Notts started the day with an advantage of 58 on the first innings and, when the sixth wicket of their rivals fell, were still a couple of runs ahead. But the closing Marylebone batsmen fought a fine up-hill game. Chatterton and Pougher put on 51 for the seventh partnership, and Mr Hornsby and J T Hearne 52 for the ninth, so that eventually Notts were left with 127 to make for victory.

Shrewsbury and Mr Howitt started carefully, but Notts' misfortunes set in when Shrewsbury ran out Mr Howitt at 20. Shortly afterwards the former played a ball into his wicket, and Gunn and Flowers were both out at 35. Marylebone's chances appeared to decline while Daft and Mr Wright were together; but the home side fielded closely, and Pougher and Hearne bowled well. Forty runs were slowly put together, and then Mr Wright hit the ball up into the hands of point. Six for 79. The last three men were soon out for an addition of ten and, with Barnes unable to bat on account of an injury to his hand, the innings closed.

Marylebone won by 37 runs. It was a remarkable victory after the early play of the morning. J T Hearne took ten wickets in the match for 126 runs. There was a good attendance in the afternoon.

4 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY – THE FRESHMAN’S MATCH

(Potted scores) MR W H BRAIN’S SIDE 455 (G J Mordaunt 71, G O Smith 113, G B Raikes 23, M Y Barlow 44, C H Ransome 45, J Cornas 45, R H S Baiss 74; F G H Clayton 3 wkts, R N Bosworth-Smith 3 wkts) and 285/3 dec (G J Mordaunt 113*, G B Raikes 89, P F Warner 34, G O Smith 24*; F G H Clayton 3 wkts). MR L C H PALAIRET’S SIDE 463 (B N Bosworth-Smith 40, F G H Clayton 230, E Lane-Fox 32, S R Hignell 49, E R Morres 25; M Y Barlow 3 wkts) and 234/2 (H D G Leveson-Gower 111, F G H Clayton 70*, D M’Lachlan 29*). Match drawn.

Day 1 (report from Friday 5 May, page 11)

Mr G O Smith, who was captain at Charterhouse last year, when he scored 229 and 109 against Westminster and Wellington and had an average for his school of 43 for 16 completed innings, has once more illustrated his great batting skill at Oxford. Here, yesterday, in the Freshmen’s match, he made 113, in which were 1 fours.

Mr G J Mordaunt, the late captain of Wellington, hit 12 fours and, with Mr Smith, put on 123 for the first wicket. Mr Barlow, the late captain at Harrow, also did well, while Messrs Baiss and Cornes scored heavily towards the close of the innings. Mr Baiss hit 13 fours and Mr Cornes seven. All these feats were achieved for Mr Brain’s side against Mr Palairet’s. It will be noted that neither Mr H K Foster, Malvern, nor Mr C P Lewis, the Wykehamist wicket-keeper, appear in the match.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 6 May, page 15)

A remarkable innings of 230 by Mr F G H Clayton, Harrow’s chief batsman last year, when his school average was 6 for 14 innings, furnished the characteristic to yesterday’s play in the Freshman’s match at Oxford. Mr Clayton made his runs in about four hours, and his contributions of 30 fours, five threes and 17 twos point to the freedom with which he hit. He went in second wicket down and obtained 30 of 391 added during his stay. It was not until he approached his second 100 that he made any mistake worthy of mention.

This fine innings dwarfed all the other cricket; but it will be noted that at the close of Mr Palairet’s team’s batting there was a balance of eight runs against Mr Brain’s side.

Day 3 (report from Monday 8 May, page 12)

The great batting triumphs of the opening stages of the Freshmen’s match at Oxford had not exhausted the skill of the sides. Thus on Saturday there was further heavy scoring, and the bowlers were only able to capture five wickets, while over 500 runs were obtained. Each team had finished an innings by Friday night, and both had entered the fifth hundred; but there was only a difference of eight between the totals, and this was in favour of Mr Palairet’s side.

For Mr Brain’s twelve Mr Raikes batted brilliantly, and he and Mr Mordaunt threw great vigour into the hitting. Mr Raikes made 14 fours and six twos. Mr Mordaunt, last year’s captain of Wellington, followed up his first day’s contribution of 71 with a fine score of 113. Nineteen fours, two threes and six twos were the chief items by Mr Mordaunt.

With 285 to their credit, Mr Brain's team closed the innings. Mr G O Smith had again done well. In the two hours remaining for play, Mr Palairet's team made a bold attempt to score the 278 necessary for victory. And so vigorous was the batting that the task had been nearly accomplished at the cost of only two batsmen, when the stumps were drawn and the match left unfinished. Mr Leveson-Gower, of Winchester and Magdalen, ran up 111 in an hour and a half; his chief hits were 18 fours, two threes and nine twos. The Harrovian, Mr F G H Clayton, whose first innings of 230 had eclipsed the other scores of the match, again fared well and brought his aggregate in the game to 300 for once out.

No fewer than 1,437 runs had been recorded in the match for the loss of 27 wickets, so that the average was 53 a wicket. In the six days' play ending at Oxford on Saturday the total runs of the Seniors' and the Freshmen's matches were 2,473.

4 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY – THE SENIORS' MATCH

(Potted scores) MR N C COOPER'S SIDE 122 (T N Perkins 65; J M Marshall 7 wkts) and 280 (E Stogdon 66, T N Perkins 30, H S Parker 56, R L Leigh-Clare 33; C G Pope 4 wkts, L V Lodge 3 wkts). HON M G TOLLEMACHE'S SIDE 146 (Hon M G Tollemache 30, R C Norman 21; W H Prosser 5 wkts, E T Baines 4 wkts) and 29 (J D Brunton 27, A O Jones 38, K S Ranjitsinhji 32, W G Druce 65, E J Whitting 35; W H Prosser 5 wkts, H S Parker 3 wkts). Mr Cooper's Side won by 27 runs.

Day 1 (report from Friday 5 May, page 11)

Yesterday's play in this match at Cambridge was more favourable for the bowler than had been the cricket of the Freshmen earlier in the week.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 6 May, page 15)

The Seniors' match at Cambridge was concluded yesterday on the University ground. When play ceased on Thursday night Mr Cooper's team had begun their second innings and lost two wickets for 52.

Mr Stogdon continued his capital batting and was not dismissed until he had made 66, in which were six fours and six threes. Subsequently Messrs Parker and Leigh-Clare put on 77, and the score stood at 280 when the last man left.

The Hon M G Tollemache's side wanted 257 to win. In the early part of the innings Mr Jones, the Nottingham batsman, and Mr Ranjitsinhji fared well and scored 60 for the second wicket. Afterwards Messrs Whitting and Druce added 69, and the latter's score was 65 when he was caught in the long field. Mr Cooper's team won by 27 runs.

Friday 5 May, page 11: THE SURREY CLUB

In the absence of Lord Oxenbridge, through illness, Mr Wildman Cattley presided at the annual meeting of the Surrey Club, held at Kennington Oval last evening. The report of the committee congratulated the members on the brilliant successes achieved by the eleven last summer.

In consequence of the new turf being laid down on the centre of the Oval it had been deemed inadvisable to play football there during the late months. The usual welcome would be given to the Australians, who had two fixtures with Surrey and one each with the South of England and England on the Oval. England v Australia would be Maurice Read's benefit game.

During the year 160 members had been elected and 214 candidates were still waiting to come up. All interested in Surrey cricket had learned with regret of the illness of Lohmann, whom, with Maurice Read, the committee had sent for a trip to the Cape. The loss of the Rev C G Lane and Mr F Burbidge was mentioned with great regret.

Two vacancies on the committee had occurred by the death of Mr Burbidge and the resignation of Mr J S Balfour, and these were filled up by the appointment of Mr R K Causton, M.P., and Mr J B Scriven. The balance-sheet showed £8,000 invested in India Three per Cent Stock and £1,537 cash in hand. The accounts and report were adopted, and the officers re-elected as follows: - President, Lord Oxenbridge; vice-president, Earl of Bessborough; treasurer, Mr Wildman Cattley; secretary, Mr C W Alcock. The resolution to the effect that Surrey should contribute towards the Liberator Relief Fund was withdrawn.

Saturday 6 May, page 15: ESSEX COUNTY CLUB

Mr C E Green presided at the meeting of his club, held at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool-street, on Thursday afternoon. In bringing forward the report for the year the chairman said that the club was greatly indebted to Mr C M Tebbutt's financial assistance for its continued life. That gentleman, in addition to his £100 towards the guarantee fund of £3,000, had advanced £1,800 to clear off the sum due to the bankers. By more than £600 the cricket expenses had exceeded the cricket receipts; indeed, football was a far more fruitful source of revenue.

A large increase of members was necessary for the club to be worked successfully. With a capital programme and the prospect of good wickets the county hoped for a bright future. The Australians were to play at Leyton against Cambridge Past and Present on August 10. After a little discussion the report was adopted.

Monday 8 May, page 12: SOMERSET COLTS' MATCH

At Taunton on Friday and Saturday a team of 19 colts were opposed by a county side. Sloman, of Minehead, and Coyle, of Taunton, seemed to be the best batsmen among the colts, who were beaten by an innings and 100 runs. For the county Messrs Trask and Poynton each made over 100, while Nichols and Tyler bowled with great effect.

Monday 8 May, page 12: SUSSEX COLTS' MATCH

Friday and Saturday were devoted to this match at Brighton. The young players were beaten by eight wickets. Lowe, a new fast left-hand bowler, took 14 of the colts' wickets at an average cost of less than seven runs each. A Kennett (Bognor), 54, and H Mawle (Hastings), 22, showed remarkably good form for their runs. The highest scorers for Sussex were 73 by Mr Newham and 81 by Mr Dudney. Alfred Shaw had charge of the colts.

Monday 8 May, page 12: In a match at Chiswick-park on Saturday three of the Australians appeared in the home side against the Wanderers. Mr Coningham scored 90, not out, and Mr Gregory and Mr Graham 20 and 10 respectively. The match was drawn.

8 May: LORD SHEFFIELD'S XI v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3920.html)

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

The new Australian eleven began their season's programme yesterday at Sheffield-park, when they were opposed by a side almost representative of England's full strength. Lord Sheffield's name is closely allied with cricket, not only from his association with the welfare of Sussex, in which county he has devoted so much care in fostering the game, but by his visit to the colonies 18 months ago with the fine hand of cricketers under the captaincy of Dr Grace. There were playing for his lordship yesterday many of the side which figured in the remarkable contests in Australia when England was twice worsted.

In 1890, the last time the Australians were here, England had then the weather against them and, on a wicket ruined by rain after a long score by the visitors, had to play a hopelessly losing game. Yesterday the cricket field itself left nothing to be desired; the turf was hard, the grass plentiful and the pitch true.

The day's cricket was largely occupied by the first innings of the Englishmen, whose brilliant start lost some of its effect by the hurried departure of the last six or seven members of the team. With so many good batsmen on the English side and with over 200 on the score sheet with only two wickets down, people were justified in expecting big scores. But the Australians bowled and fielded with great success and, having rid themselves of Dr Grace, Shrewsbury and Gunn, their task proved easy. Dr Grace's 63 was the best innings of the day, and Shrewsbury and Gunn both played excellently.

As to the other points of the game, the bowling of Messrs Coningham and Giffen commanded most attention. The former has certainly made a good impression on his first appearance in England. From the time he relieved Mr Giffen he was on to the end of the innings, keeping a good length and getting in his fast ball at pretty regular intervals. Mr Giffen, going on a second time, was very effective. The Australian fielding left little to be wished for. Some five or six thousand spectators visited the park, which Lord Sheffield had thrown open free to the public.

Dr Grace won the toss and the Australians, who had left out Messrs Bannerman, Walter Giffen and Jarvis, took the field at ten minutes past 12. Dr Grace and Shrewsbury opened the English batting. Messrs Giffen and Turner were the bowlers, to whom the fields were placed thus: - To Mr Giffen – Blackham, wicket-keeper; Trott, point; Gregory, cover-point; M'Leod, mid-off; Trumble, slip; Coningham, square-leg; Bruce, long-on; Turner, mid-on; Lyons, third man; and Graham, short-leg. To Mr Turner – Blackham, wicket; Trott, point; Gregory, cover-point; M'Leod, mid-on; Trumble, slip; Coningham, mid-off; Bruce, third man; Lyons, long-on; Graham, extra cover-point; Giffen, extra slip. Thoms and Carpenter were the umpires.

The game began well for the Englishmen, who played with easy precision. A piece of misfielding by Coningham enabled Shrewsbury to score a couple of runs, and the professional soon gained four from a ball which Mr Giffen pitched a little short on the leg side and which was promptly placed to square-leg. The batsmen scored rapidly; but twice Shrewsbury showed an inclination to start for sharp runs. Dr Grace, though he once let a ball from Turner get past him, played with great freedom, his cutting and driving possessing most of his old powers. In the first 35 minutes Dr Grace made six fours and Shrewsbury drove Mr Giffen twice to the boundary, in the second

instance giving a possible chance to Mr Graham, who in the long field ran hard backwards and just got under the ball, which he touched.

The 50 had gone up in 35 minutes, and the bowling was now changed at both ends, Messrs M'Leod and Coningham going on. Dr Grace scored a couple of fours. The fresh bowling had certainly the effect of slackening the fast rate of scoring. There had been plenty of good fielding to applaud; Mr Bruce at third man and Mr Giffen at extra slip both did well. Shrewsbury seemed to give a chance at the wicket when he had made 29. Dr Grace again got a couple of fours by cuts from Mr M'Leod, and scored eight more runs by a cut and a drive in his next over. At the end of an hour Dr Grace had scored 63 out of 100. There was plenty of cheering as the three figures appeared on the telegraph board. But the separation was near, and at 101 Dr Grace, in attempting to cut Mr Coningham, was caught at slip – a good right-handed catch by Mr Trumble. The vigour of Dr Grace's batting will be understood from the composition of his 63 – namely, 14 fours, a two and five singles. He made his runs in a little over an hour.

Gunn joined Shrewsbury. Mr Turner had previously resumed bowling in place of Mr M'Leod. In the last 25 minutes' play before luncheon the cricket proved very quiet; and this was the more noticeable coming as it did after the lively cricket of the early hour. Shrewsbury and Gunn were both content to play purely a defensive game, and only 15 runs had been added since Dr Grace had gone when the interval was taken. Mr Trumble going on at 108 puzzled the batsmen occasionally, and Shrewsbury made one very bad hit which passed just out of reach of Mr M'Leod.

After luncheon Mr Blackham altered his bowling. Mr Coningham crossed over to Mr Trumble's end and Mr Turner bowled from the other side. But as runs came quickly Mr Trumble soon displaced the latter. Gunn then put the ball up just out of reach of the bowler. Few incidents of interest in the batting were noted; but at last Shrewsbury, with a cut for four, completed his 50, having been at the wickets about two hours and five minutes. It was by slow stages that the score advanced to 159. Mr Giffen now went on for a second time at his original end. Mr Coningham, however, got the wicket, Shrewsbury being easily caught at slip at 167. The famous Notts batsman had played in a manner well worthy of his reputation; his 62 had occupied two hours and a quarter, and included ten fours, a three and six twos.

Mr Hewett came next. His early strokes were not very certain, but after playing Mr Giffen badly he got to the other end and drove Mr Coningham twice to the boundary. Subsequently Mr Hewett obtained six by two fine drives from Mr Giffen, the first ball being cleverly fielded by Mr Graham. Two fours (drives) by Gunn sent up the 200 at ten minutes past 4, the professional at the same time completing his 50. Gunn did not stay very much longer, as, at 215, he was out to a well-judged catch at long-off, where Mr Graham, running in from the boundary, took the ball very well. Gunn had made 56 in an hour and three-quarters, his chief hits being nine fours, a three and three twos.

Soon afterwards an easy catch at extra mid-off closed Mr Hewett's innings; the Somerset captain had made 30. Mr Giffen quickly got Maurice Read caught at short-slip, and five wickets were down for 221. Peel only survived a couple of overs, making a four from Mr Giffen, by whom he was bowled with a very good ball which kept low. Six for 225. Lockwood narrowly escaped being caught and bowled first ball, and directly afterwards Mr Stoddart fell to an easy catch at cover-point. Seven men were now out for 227, and the last three-quarters of an hour had produced a wonderful change in the game.

Fortune still favoured the Australians. A few free hits preceded the dismissal of Briggs – bowled by Mr Giffen at 248 – while six runs later Mr M'Gregor was stumped and Attewell was quickly caught

at point. The innings closed at five minutes past 5 for 258. Since Shrewsbury's departure the last eight wickets had fallen in an hour and a half for 91 runs.

The Australians went in for rather more than half an hour, and in that time they scored quickly. Messrs Bruce and Trott began the innings, and the bowlers were Attewell and Lockwood. Six fine fours were made, and then Mr Bruce was caught at slip, after which Messrs Trott and Graham played out time.

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

The thousands who gathered in the beautiful grounds of Sheffield-park yesterday must have been disappointed by the lack of excellence in the Australian batting. Messrs George Giffen and Bruce did not stay sufficiently long to give an idea of their game; but Mr Lyons early in the day showed that he had not forgotten how to hit, while Messrs Graham and M'Leod possessed the merit of steadiness. Mr Coningham followed up his effective bowling of Monday with a couple of useful innings, but his inclination to hit everything cannot prove always profitable.

Lockwood, of Surrey, and Abel and Briggs were chiefly the cause of the Australian discomfiture, and their skill with the ball was strongly supported by the correct fielding and the fine wicket-keeping of Mr M'Gregor. With only 54 to get in their second innings Lord Sheffield's team should gain a very easy victory to-day.

Among Lord Sheffield's guests at luncheon there were, besides the teams . . . [lengthy list follows]. In the evening the grounds were illuminated and there was a firework display.

The play was resumed at 12 o'clock, when there were about 8,000 spectators present. Messrs Trott and Graham, the not-outs, with 20 and 12, continued their batting, and the bowlers were Lockwood and Briggs. In the former's second over, and before a run had been added, Mr Trott had his off stump knocked out of the ground by a good length ball. Lockwood was bowling very fast and had Mr M'Gregor standing back, three men in the slips and a third man. Two for 40.

Mr Lyons, who followed, gave the spectators some idea of his vigorous batting in his brief stay of a quarter of an hour. He made three cuts and a drive for four each, and had scored 21 out of 31 when, in attempting to cut Briggs, he gave Maurice Read an easy catch at third man. Three for 71. Mr Giffen failed altogether, and the second ball sent him he tamely returned to Briggs. Mr Turner proved no more successful than his predecessor, for the figures were unaltered when Briggs completely beat him by a very good ball. Half the side were now out for 75.

The Australian prospects brightened during the partnership of Messrs Graham and M'Leod. The latter got each bowler away to the leg boundary, besides cutting Briggs for four, while Mr Graham, after cutting Lockwood to the boundary, scored a single by the draw, a stroke now rarely practised, which increased the figures to 100 at five minutes past 1. The 60 runs during the morning had been made in less than an hour.

When Attewell displaced Lockwood Mr M'Gregor got rid of Mr Graham by a very fine piece of stumping. Mr Graham had played good cricket during his 80 minutes' stay. The sixth wicket fell at 103, and the game still went against the Australians. Mr M'Leod, who had played very well for 25, was caught at point, the ball going to Dr Grace off the wicket-keeper's glove. Mr Gregory was soon bowled. Eight for 113.

With 66 still necessary to avert the follow-on, Mr Trumble appeared. He played cautiously, but Mr Coningham batted vigorously and made various boundary hits, which included several fine drives and cuts, but the home side were kind to him, Attewell and Mr Hewett both missing him. Mr Coningham then sent Briggs to the square-leg boundary. Lockwood resumed bowling at 133 and quickly bowled Mr Trumble, and Mr Blackham was cleverly caught at mid-on by Mr Hewett. Thus the innings ended, total 138. Mr Coningham took out his bat for 26. The Australians had been batting two hours and five minutes. Briggs, Attewell and Lockwood had all bowled well, and were supported by excellent fielding and the good wicket-keeping of Mr M'Gregor.

The Australians followed on with arrears of 120. Messrs Bruce and Lyons were opposed by Lockwood and Briggs. Since the morning the attendance had greatly increased, and by this time the spectators must have numbered about 12,000. Mr Lyons obtained four by an off-drive from Briggs, while Mr Bruce also hit freely, making 10 by three leg hits and four by a cut. This freedom caused Attewell to take up the bowling at 34, and from his first ball Mr Bruce gave a chance to Peel in the long field, but the mistake was of little consequence, as almost immediately he was caught at cover-point from a skier. At 41, Lockwood bowled Mr Lyons and a single later got Mr Giffen caught at the wicket.

Three for 42 was a disastrous start for the Australians against such a heavy deficit, and the situation grew worse. Mr Graham and Mr Trott were associated for a little while, and the former made sundry fours, among which were a cut and a drive to the boundary. However, at 64, a brilliant catch by Mr M'Gregor, standing back to Lockwood, sent back Mr Graham. Eight runs later Mr Trott drove the ball into the hands of Mr Stoddart at long-on, and five wickets were lost for 72.

Mr Turner did his best to infuse some life into the losing game. He made several drives and cuts for four from both bowlers, and the figures quickly advanced to 97, when Mr M'Gregor again brought about a separation with a catch standing back to Lockwood, Mr Turner having to leave. Six down. With Mr Coningham in Mr M'Leod obtained four by a leg hit, the 100 being reached at ten minutes to 5. There was plenty of good fielding, but eventually eight runs were scored to Mr Coningham through Gunn's failing to stop a hit which was increased by an overthrow to the boundary.

The batsmen played freely, though there was much sharp running and considerable risk; indeed in one instance Mr Hewett seemed to have run out Mr M'Leod, who, the umpire decided, was home. Briggs again tried his bowling at 118, in lieu of Attewell, but a couple by Mr M'Leod off the last ball of the over saved the innings defeat at 10 minutes past 5. The had been splendidly returned by Maurice Read, and Mr M'Gregor had put the wicket down, the spectators believing Mr Coningham was run out. They warmly cheered the visitors when the 120 appeared, while there was further applause from Mr Coningham as he drove Attewell, who had relieved Lockwood, for four and three. At 133 Mr M'Leod's useful innings was closed by Briggs. Messrs Coningham and Gregory batted freely, but Peel, going on for the first time in the match at 150, quickly got the former caught at the wicket, and at 159 Mr Gregory fell to the same bowler, Shrewsbury taking him at mid-off. The innings closed at five minutes to 6 for 173, which leaves Lord Sheffield's team 54 to make for victory.

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

The Australians lost the first match of their tour, yesterday, at Sheffield-park, Sussex, to the powerful side got together by Lord Sheffield and captained by Dr W G Grace. On Tuesday the

Englishmen, with an innings to play, wanted only 54 for victory. The runs were made at the cost of two batsmen – Dr W G Grace and Shrewsbury – who opened the second innings to Messrs Giffen and Coningham.

Before a single had been made Dr Grace was missed by Mr Graham at cover point. Afterwards the score rose rapidly, until Mr Turner displaced Mr Coningham, with the result that at 38 Dr Grace was bowled with a very good ball. Maurice Read and Shrewsbury, who were the next partners, seemed likely to score the other runs; but, when the task was almost finished, Shrewsbury drove a ball from Mr Giffen and was caught in the long field. Gunn arrived, and within the hour the runs were scored, Lord Sheffield's team winning by eight wickets.

This decisive success was well deserved. The leading Australian batsmen failed against the great skill of the English bowling and fielding. But the Australians, although they have not gained much batting reputation by this game, will remember that to meet such a picked eleven as Lord Sheffield's in the first match was a very severe test. They have several points on which to congratulate themselves: the capital bowling and fielding of Monday and the form displayed by Messrs Graham, M'Leod and Coningham – the new batsmen – of whom Mr Graham showed by far the best cricket. Dr Grace's batting in the first innings was one of the finest features of the game.

Lord Sheffield's kindness in throwing open his park to the public and affording such opportunities for seeing the leading cricketers was fully appreciated, as was proved by the large attendances. The wicket played excellently to the end, and fine weather prevailed on all three days.

8 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY – THE ELEVEN v SIXTEEN FRESHMEN

(Potted scores) SIXTEEN FRESHMEN 326 (H D G Leveson-Gower 55, G J Mordaunt 75, H K Foster 26, D M'Lachlan 31, M Y Barlow 32, H A Arkwright 47*; L C V Bathurst 5 wkts, T B G Wilson 4 wkts) and 180/8 dec (G J Mordaunt 25, H K Foster 32, M Y Barlow 41, H A Arkwright 52; L C V Bathurst 5 wkts). THE ELEVEN 280 (L C H Palairet 29, R C N Palairet 31, C B Fry 92, L C V Bathurst 27, A J Boger 27, J B Wood 36; H D G Leveson-Gower 5 wkts) and 131/3 (L C H Palairet 61*, C B Fry 38, V T Hill 21). Match drawn.

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

More good scoring was witnessed at Oxford yesterday in the match between the Eleven and Sixteen Freshmen. The latter were batting the whole of cricketing hours, during which they completed their innings. Messrs Mordaunt and Leveson-Gower put on 105 for the first wicket. Mr Mordaunt made his 79 in a couple of hours by 12 fours, two threes, four twos and singles, while Mr Leveson-Gower hit seven fours, two threes and three twos. Mr Clayton, who figured so prominently last week, failed, but Mr Arkwright did well.

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

In the continuation of the match at Oxford yesterday, the best point in the play was the batting of Messrs Fry and Bathurst, whose long partnership for the sixth wicket yielded 105 runs.

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

Yesterday, at Oxford, the batsmen once again had considerably the best of matters. Eventually the game was drawn.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3919.html)

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

The annual match between Mr Thornton's team and Cambridge University was begun yesterday on the University ground at Cambridge. There were 12 players a-side.

Going in first, the visitors fared badly, and at the fall of the ninth wicket only 95 runs were recorded. Mr Thornton and Mr Kemble, however, put on 57, while an unexpected stand for the last wicket by Mr Kemble and Mold produced no fewer than 78 runs. Mold hit seven fours.

Messrs Jackson and Douglas batted excellently for the University, and the score stood at 61 before the latter left. Mr Latham then helped his captain to raise the score to 127, when Mr Jackson's remarkably good innings was closed by a catch at mid-on; in his 80 were 11 fours. Mr Latham continued to play well . . .

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

Against the good bowling possessed by Mr Thornton at Cambridge yesterday, Mr P H Latham played a very fine innings. He went in first wicket down overnight and was eighth to leave at 273. Throughout his stay of three hours his play was always good, and he made eight fours, four threes and 11 twos. Messrs Hill and wells also batted well.

With arrears of 73 Mr Thornton's team went in a second time . . .

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

The Cambridge University team gained a brilliant victory over Mr Thornton's powerful twelve yesterday, at Cambridge when, as on the previous days of the match, the batsmen made the most of their opportunities on the hard and true wicket. The success of the University was largely due to the excellent innings of Mr J Douglas.

When the match was resumed yesterday Mr Thornton's team had four wickets to fall and held a lead of 77. The captain and Mr Trumble made a determined stand and, after scoring 50 in 40 minutes, added together 93 before they were separated. Mr Wells's bowling towards the close was very effective; he took four wickets for 12 runs in seven overs. Mr Trumble contributed eight and Mr Thornton six fours.

Cambridge wanted 174 for victory. Mr Douglas received considered assistance from several of his companions; Mr Jones helped to add 64 for the third wicket and Mr Hill stayed while the last 61 were made. Mr Douglas's score of 80 included seven fours, five threes and 11 twos. Cambridge won by eight wickets.

8 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarhive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3921.html)

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

At Lord's, yesterday, the play proved even and interesting and was well appreciated by a large company. Both sides were strong, and a new professional was introduced into important cricket in the person of Squires, a slow left-hand bowler, to whom Yorkshire are giving a trial.

With the wicket a little fiery the bowlers got the upper hand all day. Yorkshire, who went in first, were batting about two hours and 40 minutes. Four wickets fell for 40, but then Wainwright, who played perhaps the best innings of the day, and Mounsey put on 46 in three-quarters of an hour. Wainwright was sixth out at 108 for 59, in which were eight fours, two threes and five twos. Ulyett afterwards threw plenty of vigour into the game.

Marylebone, like Yorkshire, began badly, and half the side were out for 16 runs, while, in spite of the good hitting of Shacklock, eight men were dismissed before the follow-on was averted. Messrs Foley and Hillyard, however, added 53 for the ninth wicket, and the former was the last to leave after a stay of an hour. His chief hits were eight fours, a three and three twos. Yorkshire, with a lead of 26, went in a second time . . .

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

Yesterday's cricket at Lord's proved extremely interesting. The county, who were 53 runs ahead with seven wickets in hand, increased their lead by 75 in an hour and a quarter. Wardall played well; but after the 100 had gone up with only six men out, the innings was finished off for 102.

Marylebone, in three-quarters of an hour before luncheon, obtained 82 of the 129 necessary to win and lost only three wickets. Subsequently, the 100 appeared with only four men out, but then the batting collapsed before the bowling of Hirst, who took five of the last seven wickets at a cost of two runs. Yorkshire thus won the match by 17 runs.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128139.html)

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

In the first match at the Oval yesterday Warwickshire got the better of the day's cricket with Surrey, whose team was weakened by the absence of Lockwood and Maurice Read at Sheffield-park, and of Abel, whose eyes are bad. Lohmann is still away at the Cape.

Warwickshire began only moderately and, beyond Quaife, few of the earlier men stayed long. Six wickets were lost for 87, but then Lilley and Richards carried the figures to 205. The former was eventually leg-before to Ayres for 124. The only mistakes in a fine innings were, at 35, to mid-off and, at 107, in the long field. His hits included two fives, 12 fours, five threes and 13 twos. Warwickshire finished their innings at 20 minutes to 5. Sharpe bowled very well and his analysis came out thus – 37 overs (15 maidens), 82 runs, five wickets.

After Surrey had lost four good men for 44, Ayres and Henderson considerably improved matters . .

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

After for some time fighting an uphill game the Surrey Eleven gained a brilliant victory by seven wickets over Warwickshire yesterday at Kennington-oval.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3925.html)

About 8,000 spectators visited the county ground at Birmingham yesterday, when the Australians began a match with Warwickshire. The Australians made a change in the side that lost to Lord Sheffield's team; and Mr H Trumble was superseded by Mr Walter Giffen.

With a choice of innings on a good wicket Warwickshire certainly had an advantage, but the Australians got them out in two and a half hours, and by the time that stumps were drawn the visitors had much the best of the game. Warwickshire lost Quaife before a run had been scored, but Mr Hill and Diver put on 54 runs in 40 minutes by very good play. Subsequently the only batting worthy of much note was that by Mr Docker, whom Mr Bainbridge helped to add 40 runs for the fourth partnership. The county's bright prospect disappeared when Mr Giffen went on a second time, and the last six wickets averaged only ten runs each. Mr George Giffen had an analysis of seven wickets for 60 runs. Warwickshire were all out by 3.35.

Messrs Lyons and Bruce began the visitors' batting and were faced by Shilton and Cresswell. Mr Bruce was stumped at 20, after which Messrs Lyons and Giffen raised the figures by steady play to 40. Mr Lyons now began to hit with great freedom; he reached his 50 in 55 minutes, while the total was yet only 66, and at the hour he was credited with 64 out of 80. However, at 93 he was caught at cover-point for a brilliant 71, in which were ten fours, three threes and eight twos. After Mr Giffen had been run out at 106 Messrs Graham and Trott added 46. Mr Coningham arrived and the Warwick total was passed with six wickets in hand.

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

Warwickshire were decisively beaten in their match with the Australians, who won yesterday afternoon at Birmingham by the substantial majority of ten wickets. The colonial team showed a considered improvement in their batting, but of course the skill of the bowlers by whom they were opposed on this occasion was scarcely equal to the attack at Sheffield Park.

Mr Graham, who had created a very favourable opinion by his style in the first match, did very well again yesterday, and Mr M'Leod was also pretty successful. There were between 5,000 and 6,000 spectators, and the pitch remained true. The Australians, who had made 166 for four wickets against Warwickshire's 159, resumed their batting at ten minutes past 12. Messrs Graham and Coningham, the not-outs, put on altogether 54 runs for the fifth wicket before Shilton got the latter player out at 204. Mr Graham was eventually stumped for 55, obtained in an hour and a quarter. Neither Mr Gregory nor Mr Turner gave very much trouble, but Messrs M'Leod and Walter Giffen scored 52 for the ninth partnership, the former playing the better cricket. After two hours the visitors completed their innings for 286.

Warwickshire, who were 127 behind, lost five men in three-quarters of an hour for 35. Subsequently Quaife batted with much success. Lilley helped him to add 48 in 25 minutes, but at 162 Quaife was caught at mid-on; his principal hits were six fours, four threes and six twos. Then the county were steadily dismissed, and at 5.20 the innings closed for 153. Messrs Lyons and Bruce quickly obtained the few runs necessary for the Australians' victory, and Warwickshire were beaten by ten wickets. A scratch match will be played to-day.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/265/265441.html)

Monday 15 May, page 6

Between 2,000 and 3,000 spectators witnessed the scratch match played on Saturday at Birmingham between the Australians and Warwickshire, the game having been arranged to fill up the blank day caused by the early termination of the county contest on Friday. Some good batting and bowling produced the following figures . . .

11 May: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3922.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 May, page 11)

At one time yesterday in this match, on the Gloucester Ground, the home county, who had gone in first with the wicket hard and true, seemed likely to score heavily, but after a brilliant stand by Dr W G Grace and Painter the side were steadily dismissed.

The players named added 124 in a little over an hour for the third partnership, and of this number 81 were obtained by Painter, who hit 13 fours, a three and seven twos. Dr Grace occupied two hours in making his 54, which was a fine innings and included two fours, four threes and eight twos. Dr E M Grace and Mr Kitcat got a few runs, but the side were all out in three hours for 236.

In the last hour and three-quarters of the day the visitors fared well. Wardall and Tunnicliffe obtained 92 in less than an hour, the latter making nine fours, two threes and four twos. Wardall continued to score steadily . . .

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

There was another very good day's batting at Gloucester yesterday, when the Yorkshiremen were playing a winning game nearly the whole of cricketing hours. On Thursday night Yorkshire, having disposed of their rivals for 235, had made 161 for the loss of only two wickets.

Play was resumed at 20 minutes to 12, and it had turned 4 o'clock before the visitors completed their innings. Wardall advanced his not-out score of 77 to 106, when he was bowled at 218. Beyond a sharp chance to mid-on when his figures were 29 he made scarcely a mistake during the two and a half hours over which the innings extended. His chief hits were 12 fours, a three and 12 twos. Ulyett, who succeeded Wardall, played in quite his old form, and in an hour and a half put together 54 by seven fours, two threes and five twos. Brown helped him to add 63 for the seventh wicket. The home score was passed with six men out and, the last four wickets averaging about 40 runs each, Yorkshire were able to secure a lead of 150. Hirst and Hunter put on 52 while they were together.

Gloucestershire went in a second time, and after the dismissal of Dr E M Grace and Mr Radcliffe there was a stand by Messrs Kitcat and Ferris.

Day 3 (report from Monday 15 May, page 6)

Yorkshire had secured such a long lead in this match at Gloucester by the close of the second day that their success was generally looked for; but few expected for them such an easy victory as nine wickets.

When play was continued on Saturday morning Gloucestershire, with two men out, wanted 88 to avert the single innings defeat. At 20 minutes to 12 Messrs Ferris, 16, and Kitcat, 22, were opposed by Hirst and Wainwright. With only a single added Mr Kitcat fell to a catch at wicket, while at 73 a good ball from Hirst bowled Mr Ferris's off stump. Dr W G Grace stayed a little while; but Painter

was bowled in trying to score from a good ball, and then Mr de Winton, in hitting at a full pitch, was secured by slip. Six wickets were down for 77.

Murch and Dr Grace added 13 and then the latter was taken at cover point and a Bailer sent back Captain Luard. Afterwards Murch, Roberts and Board raised the score from 90 for eight wickets to 152. Roberts and Board put on the last 42 in 25 minutes. In getting the three runs necessary for victory Yorkshire lost Whitehead and thus won by nine wickets.

11 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3923.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 May, page 11)

The cricket at Lord's yesterday was even and interesting. Lancashire were batting until 20 minutes past 3. The best points of their game were the steady play of Smith and the more vigorous style of Briggs. These men put on 52 in 35 minutes for the third wicket, after which Baker gave Smith considerable assistance and helped to add 40. The latter was sixth to leave – caught at wicket.

Marylebone, like Lancashire, began badly, and four of the side were lost for 27. Subsequently, Rawlin and Davidson greatly improved matters; the bowling was changed at both ends before Davidson was dismissed. Fifty-two runs had been added, and Davidson's 43 included four fours, two threes and four twos. Mr Ford made a drive and a ct for four each but, at 102, Mold sent him back. Rawlin now batted vigorously, yet could get no one to stay with him, and he, too, was at length got rid of by a return catch. He played a capital innings, and in his 65, which occupied an hour and a half, were four fours, three threes and eight twos.

Lancashire were trying a new left-hand medium-pace bowler – Oakley, the professional to the Sefton Club at Liverpool – and he certainly made a very successful first appearance at Lord's by taking four wickets for 33 runs.

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

The fine finish in this match late yesterday afternoon at Lord's and the brilliant batting of Mr C P Foley were ample compensation for any previous dullness.

Marylebone had gone in wanting 103 to win. Eight of the side were out for 41 and the game seemed lost; but before Mr Foley lost J T Hearne the scores were equal. Martin, the last man, managed to keep four balls out of the wicket, and then, with a drive for three, won the most exciting of matches for Marylebone by a wicket. Mr Foley went in first, and in his not-out 62 were a five, six fours, five threes and six twos.

When the game had been resumed in the morning Lancashire's second innings was soon over, and A Ward, Baker and Tinsley alone seemed able to get any runs, although some vigorous play towards the close by Watson brought on the visitors' score to 119. Sugg, usually so free in his game, took three-quarters of an hour to make three runs. The Marylebone bowling was well managed, and Rawlin's five for 35 was the best analysis.

When Marylebone went in the bowling of Mold was very effective, but Mr Foley and J T Hearne added 61 in three-quarters of an hour for the ninth partnership; the latter played with great steadiness and made some good hits.

11 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3924.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 May, page 11)

Yesterday, at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, the home eleven batted brilliantly, and their first innings of 386 occupied the greater part of the day. After a very steady start the scoring grew rapid, and in the first three hours the runs averaged nearly 100 an hour.

Shrewsbury and Mr Wright were both out for 16, but Gunn and Barnes for the third wicket put on 152 in an hour and a half. Barnes had the misfortune to be run out directly after the interval; his 50 were splendidly made. So vigorous was the batting that Gunn and Flowers put on 82 in three-quarters of an hour, while for the fifth wicket Mr Dixon and Mr Flowers added 87 in 50 minutes. Gunn carried off the palm with an almost faultless 109; indeed, his sole error was a difficult chance at 62. During his stay of two hours and a quarter he hit 14 fours and 16 twos.

Mr Dixon made nine fours and Flowers 11 fours, six threes and six twos, the latter's 92 occupying only an hour and three-quarters. When Humphreys's lobs were tried again at 326 for four wickets they were so successful that his last piece of analysis came out thus: - 15 overs (2 maidens), 37 runs, six wickets.

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

On Thursday evening Sussex had scored 72 for three wickets against their rivals' total of 386. Yesterday morning, in the course of an hour, the seven outstanding wickets were captured for an addition of 49 runs. Mee was credited with six of these in 12 overs and a ball (three maidens) for 26 runs, while his full analysis was nine wickets for 54 runs.

Following on against a majority of 265, Sussex fared better. Mr Newham and Mr Murdoch advanced the record to 59, and afterwards Mr Smith helped his captain to add 68. Mr Murdoch continued to play well, and he eventually took out his bat for 84. His innings included ten fours, three threes and 12 twos. Nottinghamshire won by an innings and 67 runs.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/124/124175.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 May, page 11)

Yesterday the Surrey eleven, strengthened by the presence of Lockwood and Maurice Read, began the second match of the week at Kennington Oval. Leicestershire, who batted first, did not do particularly well at the start, and five men were dismissed for 62 runs.

Tomlin rescued his side from this feeble position, and his capital batting was supported by the efforts of Mr Hillyard, Mr Wright and Mr Arnall. Tomlin was eighth to leave after a stay of an hour and a half for 65, in which were eleven fours, two threes and four twos.

Surrey went in shortly before 4 o'clock. Three of their batsmen went for 58 runs, but then some very fine form was shown by Hayward, who has only recently become qualified for Surrey, and Maurice Read. Hayward was out within a minute of the close, having just reached three figures. He has a capital style and one particularly fine stroke on the leg side. His innings yesterday lasted two hours and a half, and included 18 fours, five threes and two twos. He gave a couple of chances at 35 and 87. It may be noted that Maurice Read and Hayward put on the last 106 runs in an hour.

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

Surrey had gained so considerable an advantage in this match at the Oval that it was not surprising yesterday to see them win easily. Although their fine outstanding wickets produced only 49 more runs, they were able to claim a lead on the first innings of 82.

Maurice Read very slightly improved his score of the previous night and was caught cleverly at point by Warren, who took the ball with his left hand. Read's chief hits were 11 fours, a three and a two. Pougher's 40 overs (15 maidens), 102 runs, five wickets was the best analysis.

Leicestershire's second innings lasted only an hour and three-quarters. Richardson took four wickets for 30 runs and Lockwood four for 42, and got the team out for 102. Whiteside could not go in because of an injured hand. Henderson and Ayres quickly hit off the 21 runs necessary for victory, and Surrey thus won by ten wickets.

11 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY – THE ELEVEN v NEXT SIXTEEN

(Potted scores) THE ELEVEN 533 (R C N Palairet 79, L C H Palairet 52, H D G Leveson-Gower 78, V T Hill 87, F A Phillips 23, L C V Bathurst 42, W H Brain 92; G B Raikes 5 wkts) and 79/2 (C B Fry 66*). NEXT SIXTEEN 481 (B L Richmond 43, F A G Leveson-Gower 40, F G H Clayton 32, G B Raikes 28, C J R Richards 25, M Y Barlow 87, A J Boger 27, A W F Ratty 72, D M'Lachlan 31; C B Fry 6 wkts, L C V Bathurst 4 wkts). Match drawn.

Day 1 (report from Friday 12 May, page 11)

In the parks [sic] at Oxford yesterday afternoon a large company gathered to see the play in this match. Two Freshmen were given places in the eleven – namely, Mr Mordaunt, of Wellington; and Mr H Leveson-Gower, of Winchester.

The brothers Palairet took the score from 30 to 148 for the second wicket of the eleven. Mr R [C N] Palairet's chief hits were five fours, a three and 16 twos. Afterwards Mr Hill, who made ten fours, and Mr Leveson-Gower, who secured 11 fours, batted with great freedom.

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

Heavy scoring is still the characteristic of the cricket at Oxford. Yesterday the eleven, who overnight had made 355 for seven wickets, very materially increased their figures. Mr Hill's 87 was the result of excellent batting. Messrs Bathurst and Brain put on 139 for the last partnership in an hour and a half. Although the score of the eleven was so large, Mr Raikes, the Freshman from Shrewsbury, had a very good analysis – viz., 44 overs (14 maidens), 91 runs, five wickets.

When the sixteen went in Messrs Richmond and Leveson-Gower did well . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 15 May, page 6)

There was no cessation on Saturday of the big scores that have characterized the match between the Eleven and Next Sixteen. Over a thousand runs were made altogether.

The Sixteen, who had lost five men for 163 runs, resumed their batting and were not disposed of until late in the day. The chief points of interest were the innings of Mr Barlow, the Harrow Freshman, and Mr Ratty, a Senior; the former hit a six, 14 fours, a three and eight twos, and the latter 11 fours. At one time 100 runs were scored in less than an hour. In such a big innings the bowling of Mr Fry comes out well, his figures being six wickets for 84 runs, while, when the eleven went in, his batting was also brilliant and he made a six and 12 fours. The game was drawn.

Tuesday 16 May, page 11: THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS AT SHEFFIELD PARK

On the occasion of the Australian match in Sheffield-park on Monday and Tuesday last, 31,500 persons were present, and on Wednesday, when play only lasted one hour, 1,600 were present, making a total of 33,100 people (practically in two days), in a park in a country district 20 miles from any populous town.

15 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3926.html)

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

A strong team of Gentlemen of England (with J T Hearne) was taken to Cambridge yesterday by Mr A J Webbe to play against the University. Winning the toss, England took possession of a capital wicket. Messrs Hewett and Hornsby were opposed by Messrs Burrough and Hill.

The batting was very steady, but at 19 Mr Hornsby had the misfortune to play the ball on. Mr Llewelyn aided Mr Hewett in putting on 31, and during this time the attack was changed at both ends. Mr Hewett occupied 70 minutes in making 32, and after his dismissal Mr Jackson's bowling proved most destructive. With the second ball of one over he bowled Mr Trumble, and from the fourth and fifth got Mr Webbe caught at wicket and Mr Henery at long slip. Mr Woods and Hearne, by adding 43 for the last partnership, put a brighter aspect on the England innings, which closed at ten minutes past 4 for 165.

Mr Jackson (who had taken eight wickets for 54 runs) opened the Cambridge batting with Mr Douglas. The latter was quickly bowled, but Mr Latham helped his captain to raise the score by 34. Three wickets were lost for 58, and Mr Jackson was fourth out at 72 – caught in the long field; in his excellent 43 were seven fours and two threes. Afterwards, Messrs Hill and Gay added 70 in three-quarters of an hour, when Mr Hornsby found his way into Mr Hill's wicket. Mr Ranjitsinhji came in . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 May, page 10)

The promise of a good score by the Light Blues at the end of Monday's play was fully realized yesterday at Cambridge. When the game ceased on the previous evening, the England team had finished an innings for 165, while five of the University wickets were down for 150.

Play was continued at a quarter to 12, when Messrs Gay and Ranjitsinhji were placed in opposition to Mr Woods and Hearne. A catch at mid-off disposed of Mr Gay at 164; and Mr Burrough arrived. So freely did both batsmen hit that 46 were put on before the last-comer was bowled. At length, Mr Ranjitsinhji, who had been in for an hour and a half and had batted well, was also bowled. Messrs Tollemache and Perkins were now together. Both hit hard and successfully defied all attempts to separate them until they had put together 73 runs in three-quarters of an hour. Then Mr Tollemache was caught at the wicket. Mr Perkins saw the rest of his side dismissed. The innings closed at five minutes to 2 for 302.

The Gentlemen of England, who were 137 behind, began their batting after luncheon. Messrs Webbe and Henery opened in capital style. The latter made his 36 in a dozen overs and was then caught. Mr Thornton aided Mr Webbe and some lively cricket was witnessed. Fourteen overs produced 51 runs, and then Mr Thornton was caught close to the boundary. Messrs Webbe and Hewett then ran up 36. The Middlesex captain was then taken at wicket; he had played a fine innings and had been batting for an hour and 40 minutes. Later on, Messrs Wright and Llewelyn added 40, and the innings closed at 6.25 for 217. Cambridge have now 81 to get to win and an innings in which to obtain them.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 May, page 12)

A little rain fell in the early morning at Cambridge yesterday, which rendered the wicket at Fenner's rather difficult. The University required 81 to win, and at 11.40 they sent in Messrs Jones and Douglas to start getting them. Messrs Woods and Trumble were the bowlers.

When 11 only had been made Mr Jones was run out, and at 21 Mr Douglas fell to the wicket-keeper. Messrs Latham and Burrough offered a more determined resistance to the attack and added 25, when Hearne was put on. Cambridge now fared badly. He clean bowled Mr Burrough at 46, and then Mr Trumble induced Mr Latham to return him the ball. Mr Tollemache was bowled, and five wickets were down and 29 runs yet required. Mr Ranjitsinhji and Mr Hill were now together, but the latter and Mr Perkins, who followed in, were both bowled in an over by Hearne. Mr Jackson arrived, and Cambridge ultimately won by four wickets.

15 May: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3927.html)

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

Any disappointment that may have been felt by the comparative failure of Mr George Giffen as a batsman in the matches at Sheffield Park and Birmingham was atoned for yesterday by his fine innings of 124 against Gloucestershire on the Ashley Down Ground, Bristol.

Going in first, the colonial batting extended over the whole day, and even then only small progress was made by the county in dismissing the visitors. Mr Blackham, who lost the toss in the two previous matches, was successful on this occasion. Messrs Lyons and Bannerman faced the attacks of Roberts and Murch. The opening was vigorous, and 20 runs (16 by Mr Lyons) were made in three overs; but for a little while afterwards the play assumed a much quieter aspect. Having made 30, Mr Lyons should have been caught by Painter at long-off, and he signalized his escape by resuming the vigorous manner of his early batting. Fifty went up in 30 minutes; but when Dr W G Grace took up the bowling he had the ball returned to him by Mr Lyons in his first over. This batsman made eight fours, a three and three twos.

With Mr Giffen on the scene the play grew quiet. The new batsman played very well, but Mr Bannerman's caution became almost irksome to watch. Some idea of his care will be gathered from the fact that he took an hour to make six runs. Bowling changes were repeatedly tried, but although the scoring was never rapid the batsmen played easily. The 100 went up at 20 minutes to 2, and at luncheon the record stood at 117.

Dr W G Grace and Roberts were the bowlers on resuming, when the scoring ruled slow. Mr Giffen completed his 50, and the 150 was reached at 25 minutes to 4. The cricket maintained its steady nature for another hour, and then a variation came in the bowling of Mr Bannerman by Murch. The partnership had yielded 130. Mr Bannerman for three hours and a half had displayed the utmost caution, scoring in this long time only 39 runs. It will be readily recognized that he has fully preserved the style for which he became noted in other tours.

Mr Giffen, who was now 92, next had Mr Trott for a partner. The latter soon settled down and much more life was infused into the match. Mr Giffen completed his 100 with the figures at 212 after a stay of rather more than three hours, and then he and Mr Trott rapidly raised the record to 277, at which point stumps were drawn. Rain came on heavily soon afterwards. It will be noted that Messrs C T B Turner, W Giffen and Jarvis are standing out of the Australian team.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 May, page 10)

The heavy score of the Australians and the long innings of Mr George Giffen, followed by the collapse of the Gloucestershire batting, furnished a variety of cricket at Bristol yesterday that possessed an almost sensational nature. In his previous visits to England Mr Giffen cannot be remembered to have batted with greater excellence than during the hours of Monday and yesterday, while an illustration of his all-round skill was afforded by his effective bowling late in the day, which proved so disastrous to the county. The cricket during the last two days has certainly removed some of the impressions left of their exhibition at Sheffield Park, and allowing for the difference in the calibre of their opponents, it will be acknowledged that the Australians are now

showing something of their reputed form.

The visitors, who had lost two wickets for 277, resumed batting at ten minutes past 12, Messrs Giffen, 124, and Trott, 52, being opposed by Dr Grace and Mr Ferris. Mr Giffen played with more freedom than hitherto, and the 300 appeared after the innings had been in progress about five hours. Murch, however, going on for Dr Grace, at last got Mr Trott taken at mid-on for 68; the partnership for the third wicket had yielded 123 in an hour and 50 minutes. Mr Bruce was quickly caught at point, but Mr Graham and Mr Giffen made another stand. The latter reached his 150 after a stay of five hours, but at 381 his innings was terminated by a good piece of stumping. He went in shortly before 1 o'clock on Monday and his dismissal took place at 20 minutes to 2 yesterday; the actual time of his stay was five hours and three-quarters. Sound judgment characterized his play throughout. He gave no chance. Five for 381.

Messrs Graham and M'Leod put on 37 more before the former was stumped. After Mr Gregory had left M'Leod and Coningham put on 58 in 50 minutes for the eighth wicket, but when the former had been secured by Board the end was quickly reached, Mr Coningham being bowled and Mr Blackham caught at wicket. It was a quarter to 5 when the long innings, which had lasted eight hours and 40 minutes, closed for 503.

Fifty-five minutes were left for Gloucestershire to bat, and Dr W G Grace altered his usual order with the idea of reserving some of his best men for the morning. No one was prepared for the ill-fortunes which befell the county. Messrs Coningham and Trumble began the bowling, and in the second over Dr E M Grace was taken in the long field. At 20 Mr Radcliffe was caught at slip, and when Roberts came in Mr Giffen went on to bowl for Mr Coningham. With his first ball he got Roberts caught at wicket, and from his last Mr Rice fell to short-leg, making four men out for 25.

Mr Giffen soon bowled Murch, and Painter and Captain Luard were quickly out, while in the last over of the day Mr Kitcat was also bowled. So far Mr Giffen's analysis reads thus: - five overs (three maidens), eight runs, five wickets. It may be noted that the wicket was very little affected by the overnight's rain, and that the number of spectators was larger than on Monday.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 May, page 12)

By the change in the weather Gloucestershire found a means to escape their threatened defeat on the Ashley Down Ground, Bristol, yesterday, and after a little cricket in the morning the match was abandoned. What little play was allowed by the rain saw the completion of the county's first innings and an increase in the remarkable return of Mr George Giffen's bowling analysis, which read thus: six overs and three balls (three maidens), 11 runs, seven wickets.

Overnight Gloucestershire had lost eight batsmen for 36. Three overs yesterday produced five runs, and then Mr Giffen got Mr Ferris caught at short-leg and Board at mid-on from successive balls. Before the home team, who were 462 behind, could follow on the rain came and play was stopped.

15 May: LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3928.html)

No report or scorecard found.

15 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3929.html)

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

The great driving powers of Mr G Brann gave much brilliance to the cricket at Lord's yesterday, when the Sussex eleven began their annual match with Marylebone. Sussex, who had been so badly beaten by Nottinghamshire, met again five of the same side.

Sussex were batting nearly the whole of cricketing hours, and ran up what looks like a winning score. Mr Brann went in when three wickets were down for 79, and he was ninth out at 256, having contributed 137 out of 177 in rather less than two hours. He scored his first 50 in an hour and his last 87 in 55 minutes. His innings was free from fault, and he offered no chance until Sherwin very easily stumped him; his chief hits were 18 fours, three threes and eight twos. Messrs Murdoch and Newham played well; but, when the seventh wicket fell at 168, there seemed little prospect of any very big total. However, Butt and Tate both stayed while Mr Brann hit and, after the amateur had left, Tate and Lowe added 61 in three-quarters of an hour for the last wicket. Sherwin, however, should have easily stumped Lowe off the Rev R T Thornton's lobs when he had scored only four. The M.C.C. fielding was exceptionally good, especially that of Mr Stoddart, at mid-off, Mr Foley and Mr Ford, while Moorhouse's bowling figures came out well.

Marylebone went in for an hour, and Mr Foley and Mr Stoddart, although neither seemed to appreciate Humphreys' lobs, batted excellently and had scored 89 at the end of the day. After a bright morning the weather grew dull, but there was a very good attendance of spectators.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 May, page 10)

The heaviness of the county score at Lord's on Monday was not sufficient to give Sussex a lead on the first innings, and yesterday Marylebone were batting until late in the afternoon. Those most concerned in the big total were Gunn, Mr Stoddart and Mr Foley, while, after the Sussex bowling had been tolerably well punished, the hitting of Flowers and Moorhouse contained much vigour. Gunn went in first wicket down at 95 and was fifth out, caught in the long field at 324, having been in about two hours and three-quarters; his chief hits were a five, 15 fours, two threes and seven twos.

Mr Stoddart, who with Mr Foley scored 95 for the opening partnership, was quickly out yesterday morning (taken at point); in his 62 were ten fours. At one time there were 208 runs on the board with only one wicket down; but after the heavy shower, which delayed the game altogether about an hour and a half, the pitch helped the bowlers in some degree. Mr Foley followed up his success of last week with a fine 69, in which were nine fours, three threes and three twos. He and Gunn added 113 for the second wicket, and Flowers stayed with Gunn until 290. After the latter had gone Guttridge and Lowe got the last five men out very quickly; indeed, they captured them in 35 minutes for 21 runs.

Sussex entered on their second innings with arrears of 28, and the close of the day left them with nine wickets in hand and three runs behind.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 May, page 12)

The rain which fell yesterday at Lord's prevented any great advance in the match between Marylebone and Sussex, and at 3.56 stumps were drawn . . .

15 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3930.html)

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

In dull, threatening weather the University began their match against Lancashire yesterday in the Parks at Oxford. The wicket was in capital order. The Dark Blues, having won the toss, sent in Messrs Mordaunt and R C N Palairet. Mold and Briggs had charge of the early bowling.

Both batsmen played carefully, but at 39 Mr Mordaunt was taken at extra slip. Mr L C H Palairet did little, and his brother was soon afterwards caught in the slips. Messrs Fry and Leveson-Gower added 54 for the fourth wicket, when Ellis, who had displaced Briggs, bowled the former. Mr Phillips arrived and proved the highest scorer. Mr Leveson-Gower aided him to put on 33, and Mr Wood stayed while 37 were added for the eighth partnership. Mr Phillips played capital cricket and made one drive over the pavilion rails for six, besides eight fours. Ellis (a left-hand slow bowler) was very effective. Total, 186.

Lancashire were batting for the rest of the day. Mr Wood's lobs were effective at the start, while subsequently Mr Fry met with considerable success. When three wickets had fallen for 66 a fine stand was made by Smith and Baker, whose partnership yielded 55. The drawing of stumps left the match in a very even position. Rain twice interfered with the game.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 May, page 10)

Rain fell heavily at Oxford during Monday night, and in the afternoon of yesterday the wicket became difficult. The close of the first day's play left the game in a very even state, as the University had completed an innings for 186, and seven of the county's wickets were down for 149. Play was continued at 20 minutes to 12, when Messrs Wood and Fry quickly took the three outstanding wickets for an addition of ten runs.

With 27 in hand, Oxford went in a second time. At 14, Mr R C N Palairet was well caught at extra slip, and Mr Mordaunt joined Mr L C H Palairet. The latter hit Briggs over the ring for six, and continued his vigorous play until 52, when he was out leg before wicket. Mr Fry then went in. Despite variations in the bowling Mr Fry and Mr Mordaunt were not separated when the luncheon interval arrived, the total then standing at 97. At 120 Mr Mordaunt was clean bowled by Mold, his partnership with Mr Fry having produced 68. The last seven wickets were secured of 33, the innings closing for 153. After luncheon interval, Briggs took seven wickets in 18 overs (seven maidens) for 25 runs.

Lancashire again went in wanting 181 to win; and when a storm stopped play at a quarter past 5 they had lost one wicket for 20 runs.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 18 May, page 12)

Lancashire made some progress towards securing the 181 runs necessary to give them the victory in this game at Oxford yesterday, but after some vigorous play by Briggs rain fell heavily and prevented the match reaching a definite issue. Sugg and Smith, the not-outs, were opposed by

Messrs Wood and Wilson; when the latter gave way to Mr Bathurst, Sugg was brilliantly caught at cover point.

Briggs, who followed in, at once obtained six by a square-leg hit, and he continued his lively game until the weather stopped the cricket. At 4 o'clock the match was abandoned . . .

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128140.html)

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

The experiences of Essex at the Oval yesterday were of a most disheartening nature. True, many of their best men were not included in the eleven but few people expected such a feeble resistance to the home attack.

Essex started batting at 12.10, and the following is a summary of their innings: - Richardson bowled Carpenter and Freeman at 15, Mr Rammell at 17, Mr Hailey at 20 and Mr Borrodaile at 25. Messrs Gosling and Kortright infused a little life into the game, but the innings only realized 63. Richardson took six wickets for 38 runs and Brockwell four for two runs.

Hayward's batting was conspicuous in the early part of Surrey's innings. He hit in fine style until he was bowled at 66. Brockwell played with great freedom and was fifth out at 116. His chief figures were nine fours, one three and five twos. Mr Key played quite up to his old form, and with Baldwin put on 51 before the former was run out. Mr Shuter joined Baldwin, and the "200" was signalled at 5.35. These batsmen played out time . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 17 May, page 10)

Play in this match was continued at the Oval yesterday. Surrey had gained a very substantial advantage on the previous day and went on with their innings. Mr Shuter, who had batted so well, was quickly taken at wicket; he had been only 35 minutes obtaining his 60, in which were seven fours, four threes and three twos. The innings closed for 323. Baldwin carried out his bat; he had been at the wickets two hours and a quarter and his chief hits were nine fours, eight threes and six twos.

Essex, in a minority of 260 on the first innings, were eventually beaten by an innings and 190 runs. The bowling of Brockwell proved remarkable, for in the double innings he took nine wickets for 20 runs.

18 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3931.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 May, page 11)

Yesterday the Yorkshire eleven paid their annual visit to Cambridge and met the Light Blue team. The weather held fine, but the batting all round was not productive owing to the difficult wicket. Cambridge have three men who did not take part in the match against the Gentlemen of England – viz., Messrs E Stogdon, E G Pope and C M Wells.

The University won the toss, and at a quarter past 12 Messrs Jackson and Douglas opened the batting. Hirst and Peel were the bowlers, and soon paid havoc with the University wickets. Mr Jackson was caught at long-on and Mr Latham by extra mid-off. Indeed, four men were dismissed for 13, and five were out in 50 minutes for 26. Mr Wells batted freely for a while, and was the eighth to leave at 55. At the interval nine wickets were down for 74. Subsequently Messrs Pope and Bromley-Davenport successfully resisted the attack until they had added 47 runs in 40 minutes for the last wicket, which fell at 121. Peel's bowling had proved very destructive, as he was credited with eight wickets for 54.

Yorkshire's innings needs little comment. They were all disposed of in an hour and 40 minutes for 83 runs, Brown and Mounsey being the only double-figure scorers. Cambridge went in a second time, and in three-quarters of an hour had lost two wickets for 39 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 May, page 9)

Moderate scoring characterized this match at Cambridge, and last evening, after a keen contest, the Light Blues were able to claim the victory. The University, having gained an advantage of 38 on the first innings, had overnight lost two batsmen in their second for 39.

The wicket was slow. Mr Latham and Mr Ranjitsinhji put together 20, when the latter was run out. Three for 59. Having had two escapes, Mr Latham was taken in the slips at 69, and four runs later Mr Wells was the fifth to leave – caught at cover-point. Messrs Hill and Stogdon stayed together some little time until the former was secured at slip at 84. With Mr Perkins in the 100 was reached at a quarter past 1, and the partnership realized altogether 25 before Mr Stogdon fell to a catch at wicket. Mr Perkins was soon caught at third man, but Mr Gay hit vigorously and was the last to leave – clean bowled. The innings closed soon after luncheon at 140.

Yorkshire now required 179 for victory, and began getting them at ten minutes past 3. Mr Sellers played well, but lost Mr Woodhead – caught at mid-off at 37 – and without addition Wardall also left. Mr Sellers and Tunncliffe scored freely, and when the 100 went up with only two men out the county's prospects were very bright. Seven runs later, however, the amateur was caught at third man' he had played capitally for 48, in which were seven fours and two twos. The game now went all against Yorkshire, and when the seventh wicket fell 59 runs were yet wanted. The last three wickets averaged ten runs each, and the innings closed for 151, Cambridge winning a fine match by 27 runs.

18 May: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3932.html)

Tuesday 16 May, page 11

For this match at Lord's on Thursday next the M.C.C. yesterday definitely chose the following to represent them: - Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr F Marchant, Mr Leslie Wilson, Mr E A Nepean, Gunn, Barnes, Sherwin, J T Hearne, Attewell and Shacklock.

Thursday 18 May, page 12

Flowers will in all probability take Barnes's place in the Marylebone eleven to meet the Australians at Lord's to-day, the last-named having injured his hand. The side will under the circumstances be constituted thus – Dr W G Grace, Mr E A Nepean, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr F Marchant, Mr L Wilson, Flowers, Gunn, Sherwin, Attewell, J T Hearne and Shacklock.

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 May, page 11)

Marylebone's matches with the colonials present an interest for the cricketing world almost equal to the latter's engagements against England. Yesterday, when the eighth Australian team appeared at Lord's, proved no exception, and an enthusiastic gathering of about 10,000 people were present.

The Marylebone team has been severely criticized, but the result of yesterday's play showed that the committee were happy in their selection. Mr Marchant, who met with such ill fortune last season, and Flowers (played in place of Barnes, whose hand was injured) were the batsmen of the day, although Mr Stoddart and Gunn had laid the foundation of a big score. The Australians were greatly weakened through the absence of Mr C T B Turner, who is suffering from influenza. His bowling, of course, would have been invaluable. Mr Jarvis and Mr W Giffen were the other outstanding colonials.

The Australians won the toss, but elected to put Marylebone in. On entering the field the colonials were warmly greeted. Dr W G Grace and Mr Stoddart were the early batsmen. Mr Giffen started the bowling from the pavilion end, his field being placed as follows: - Mr Blackham, wicket; Mr Trott, point; Mr Gregory, cover-point; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr M'Leod, deep field; Mr Graham, long-on; Mr Coningham, square-leg; Mr Bruce, forward short-leg; Mr Lyons, leg; and Mr Trumble mid-on. Dr W G Grace scored a single in the opening over.

Mr Trumble bowled from the nursery with his field disposed thus: - Mr Blackham, wicket; Mr Trott, point; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr Gregory, extra mid-off; Mr Giffen, mid-on; Mr Lyons, forward short-leg; Mr Bruce, forward square-leg; Mr Coningham, square-leg; Mr M'Leod, long-off; and Mr Graham, deep slip. Dr Grace made a couple to leg in his first over, but in Mr Giffen's second he gave a difficult return chance.

Mr Stoddart then drove Mr Trumble almost straight for four, and in the same bowler's next over he sent him to the on and off boundaries from successive balls. This brought Mr Coningham on at 21. Mr Stoddart, who was scoring at about twice the rate of his companion, next drove Mr Giffen to the off for four. After 40 minutes' play, during which time he gave some hopes of a long innings, Dr

Grace was smartly caught at short slip. One for 41.

Gunn arrived and, when a sharp and risky single had been stolen, drove Mr Giffen finely to the off boundary. He then sent Mr Coningham to leg for four, but from the next ball he should have been caught at point by Mr Trott, although the chance was extremely difficult. Fifty runs were the result of as many minutes' play. Gunn, who had previously driven Mr Giffen to the pavilion rails, now cut Mr Coningham for four, and at 68 the last-named bowler gave way to Mr M'Leod. The Nottinghamshire batsman then made two fours by a square-leg hit and straight drive. In the first hour 83 were registered, and at this total Mr Trumble superseded Mr Giffen. Mr Stoddart should have been caught by Mr Lyons when he had made 41. He soon profited by his escape, making four off Mr M'Leod and being credited with six (four from an overthrow). The 100 was reached at a quarter past 1, and when only two were added Gunn fell to a capital running catch at deep mid-on.

Mr Nepean aided Mr Stoddart, who, after driving Mr Bruce for four, was taken at slip in the same over. He had been batting an hour and a quarter. His chief hits were eight fours, three threes and four twos. Messrs Nepean and Leslie Wilson were now together. The latter gave a difficult chance to Mr Trumble at slip, and the former was soon bowled. Four for 115. Flowers joined Mr Wilson, who obtained two fours in an over of Mr Trumble's by a leg hit and an on drive. Flowers obtained seven in an over of Mr Bruce's, and at 137 Mr Coningham resumed. Flowers then made a splendid hit to the on from Mr Trumble, off whom a dozen runs were made in an over, bringing Mr Giffen on again. Flowers scored a couple of fours from him by a drive and cut, both very fine hits. At luncheon the total stood at 172.

On resuming Flowers led off by driving Mr Giffen to the pavilion and cutting him for four in the same over. Mr Coningham was the other bowler. Flowers completed his 50 a few minutes past 3, and soon afterwards an off hit for three by Mr Leslie Wilson caused the 200 to be signalled. In the next over a capital catch at long-on dismissed this batsman. Half the wickets were now down for 201, no fewer than 86 runs having been put on since the fall of the fourth.

Mr Marchant joined Flowers, who made a dozen runs by three on drives. Nor was the newcomer idle. Having sent Mr Giffen to the leg boundary, he hit the same bowler for four. Flowers then drove the ball on to the canvas which covers the boundary seats. A twofold change was now tried in the attack, Messrs Bruce and Trott going on. Mr Bannerman badly missed Mr Marchant off the latter change. The free hitting was then continued, and 50 runs were made in half an hour. Mr Lyons relieved Mr Trott, and a few overs later Mr Coningham was tried for Mr Bruce. This did not check the run-getting. Both batsmen hit with the greatest freedom, and Mr Giffen went on at 295. Flowers scored a single from his second ball and completed his 100 amidst the hearty cheers of the spectators. The 300 was reached a little before 4 o'clock. Flowers then made a dozen runs by three drives in an over from Mr M'Leod, who had relieved Mr Coningham. The batsmen continued to do pretty much as they pleased. Aided by an overthrow for three, the score reached 350 at 20 minutes past 4. Messrs Bruce and Gregory now had charge of the bowling, and from the former Flowers was at length well caught at slip. He had played a splendid innings, and among his hits were 19 fours, four threes and 12 twos. Six for 353. The partnership had yielded 152 runs.

Attewell arrived, and made 16 in four hits. At 20 minutes past 5 Mr Marchant caused the 400 to be registered. This batsman completed his own 100 after an hour and 20 minutes' play. He was then easily missed by the wicket-keeper. Further variations in the attack were adopted, it being intrusted to Messrs Coningham and Trott. Now came a rapid downfall, three batsmen being dismissed at 422 – viz., Attewell caught at wicket, Shacklock caught by Lyons running up from third man and Mr Marchant stumped. The last-named had been batting an hour and three-quarters, and in his 103

were 11 fours, eight threes and ten twos. A dextrous catch at wicket disposed of Sherwin, and the innings closed, after four hours and ten minutes' play, for 424.

Messrs Lyons and Bannerman appeared at the wickets for the Australians at 20 minutes past 5. J T Hearne bowled from the pavilion end, and off his first ball Mr Lyons was caught at point by Dr Grace. Mr Giffen came in, but was bowled in Attewell's first over. Two wickets, three runs was a most sorrowful outlook for the colonials. Mr Trott joined Bannerman, who drove J T Hearne well to the on for three. After a little careful play Mr Trott made two capital drives for four each in an over of J T Hearne's, and Bannerman drove Attewell to the boundary. A further off drive to the boundary by Mr Trott was made. Then the last-named batsman obtained eight by two drives from the Middlesex bowler. Quickly afterwards, however, he lost the company of Mr Bannerman, well caught at cover-point. Three for 31.

Mr Bruce assisted Mr Trott, and soon cut Attewell well for four. With the total at 47 Mr Nepean relieved Attewell, but in his first over Mr Trott drove him for four. The 60 was reached at five minutes past 6, and when only two had been added Mr Trott tamely returned the ball to J T Hearne. Four down. Mr Graham drove the second ball sent him for four. Mr Bruce was then missed at long-field-on by Mr Marchant. In the next over from Mr Nepean (off whom he had escaped) Mr Bruce scored two fours. He and Mr Graham played out time . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 May, page 9)

The characteristic of Australian cricket, that of playing an uphill game gallantly, received further illustration at Lord's yesterday. At the start of the day their defeat, and that even by a single innings, seemed more than probable, but the match underwent such variations that now it is quite possible they may win.

The turning point in their favour was when Mr Blackham (the last man) and Mr Gregory were together. It is by no means the first time that the colonial wicket-keeper has come to the aid of his companions, and the 60 runs which he and Mr Gregory added seemed to infuse confidence into their side when they went in a second time.

The feature of the day naturally was the brilliant batting of Mr Lyons in the follow-on. Rarely has a batsman been seen who possesses such power of hitting with so little apparent effort. Altogether it was a thoroughly good day's cricket. The wicket continued to wear well. As will be gathered from the score the Australians are 66 runs on and have six wickets in hand.

Play was continued at 25 minutes to 12, when Mr Bruce (29) and Mr Graham (14) resumed their batting. Attewell and Mr Nepean led off the attack. Mr Bruce started well, and in the amateur's first over he cut the ball late for four, and in the second he sent it to the square-leg boundary. From the next ball, however, he was caught by the wicket-keeper, who tried also to stump him. Half the wickets were now lost for 95. Mr Coningham came, and with an off-drive for a couple the "100" was signalled at 11.50. This batsman secured six in an over of Attewell's, but in Mr Nepean's next Mr Graham went about three yards out of his ground and was easily stumped. Six for 112.

Mr M'Leod joined Mr Coningham, and [had] an easy escape at the hands of Dr Grace, who was fielding at a sort of backward point. After a little quiet play Mr Coningham drove Mr Nepean for four, and at 1.30 Hearne was tried for Attewell. His first ball Mr Coningham drove to the on for three, and supplemented this with a similar hit from the other bowler to the ring. Mr Nepean, who

was becoming expensive, handed the ball to Shacklock at 1.40. A lucky snick for four fell to Mr M'Leod, and 150 were recorded at 12.35. Mr Coningham continued to play well, making an exceptionally fine drive to the on for four (all run for). A very fast ball from Shacklock bowled Mr M'Leod – middle stump – and seven wickets were lost for 161.

Mr Gregory arrived to the assistance of Mr Coningham, who had been batting with commendable steadiness since his escape. He then cut Shacklock well for three. Flowers was tried for Hearne at 170. Mr Coningham was then credited with three (two from an overthrow). Runs now came very slowly, and at length Mr Coningham obstructed his wicket. He had been in for an hour and a half, and had played a most useful innings; among his hits were four fours, three threes and three twos. Eight for 183.

Mr Trumble was clean bowled by the third ball he received. Mr Blackham, the captain was heartily cheered as he went to the wicket. Among other items he sent a ball from Flowers to square-leg for four, and also made four by two drives in the same over. A single to Mr Gregory caused the "200" to be signalled a little before half-past 1. This batsman then made a couple of fours in one over, and also sent the ball to the square-leg boundary. Flowers gave way at 215 to Hearne, whose second ball Mr Blackham cut to the boundary. Attewell was then tried for Mr Nepean. A couple of overs later a heavy downpour of rain caused a retreat to the pavilion, with the total at 228.

The game was not resumed until after luncheon, when Hearne and Attewell again bowled. Mr Gregory made seven by two drives from Hearne, and Mr Blackham five from a couple of leg-hits. At length the last-named was caught in the slips, 60 runs having been put on for the tenth wicket in half an hour. Total, 243; duration of innings, 3 hours 25 minutes.

The Australians, with arrears of 181, followed on at a quarter past 3. Mr Lyons received the 10 from Shacklock (pavilion), and in it he sent the ball to leg for four. Mr Bannerman was the other batsman, while Attewell led the attack from the nursery end. Mr Lyons quickly grew busy. After making two leg-hits to the boundary he drove a ball of Attewell's over the screen on to the top canvas of a stand, and he then made another drive over the boundary. Hearne superseded Attewell, and the first 50 runs were obtained at the rate of two a minute. Mr Nepean was put on at 53 in place of Shacklock. Mr Lyons continued to hit freely, making a very crisp cut from Hearne. In the latter's next over he secured 16 by three drives and a cut. He followed this up by obtaining ten in an over of Mr Nepean's. Mr Bannerman also scored more freely. At five minutes past 4 the "100" was signalled with no wicket down, and the spectators were most ungrudging in their applause.

Mr Lyon's next feat was driving the ball straight over the pavilion rails among the members, and then he sent it to the ring. Shacklock was put on for Hearne at 121, and his first ball Mr Lyons hit to the leg boundary, which completed his 100, obtained in an hour. Flowers next relieved Mr Nepean. Yet Mr Lyons kept triumphantly on, and the 150 was recorded at 25 minutes to 5. This batsman then scored seven in an over from Flowers, and considered laughter went round the ring when, at 167, Dr Grace himself went on for the Nottinghamshire slow bowler. Mr Lyons drove him to the off boundary. Attewell came on for Shacklock. Two drives for four were made by Mr Lyons off him, the second of which caused the arrears of 181 to be made up without loss of wicket amidst hearty cheers from the onlookers. The next ball, however, Mr Lyons drove to long-field off, where Mr Leslie Wilson fortunately secured it. He had been batting an hour and 35 minutes, and had hit no fewer than 22 fours, three threes, 20 twos and only a dozen singles. One for 181.

Mr Giffen, who joined Mr Bannerman, did not seem at all comfortable with the attack. The last-named batsman then surprised everybody by making a square-leg hit over the scoring-box. He had

been in two hours for 30 runs. Mr Giffen continued to bat with great steadiness, and a leg-hit for two by him sent the total up to 200 at half-past 5. Runs, however, came at a very tardy rate, which was accelerated a little when Mr Giffen drove a ball of Dr Grace's towards the entrance-gate. Mr Bannerman next sent a ball of Attewell's to the leg boundary. At length Dr Grace, finding he could not get a wicket, took himself off and put on Hearne. The batsmen exercised the utmost caution, Mr Giffen again relieving the monotony with a drive to the on for four, but in the next over he was caught at wicket. Two for 220, or 39 runs on.

Mr Trott secured six with an on-drive and leg-hit, but at 230 Hearne clean bowled him. Three down. Mr Bruce next came and enlivened matters by hitting a long-hop of Attewell's to leg for five, but was then out leg-before-wicket. Four for 240. Mr Graham aided Mr [Bannerman], and three runs later Mr Nepean went on. Nothing else of note happened and stumps were drawn for the day . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 22 May, page 8)

One of the best matches ever played at Lord's came to an end on Saturday, when the match between Marylebone and the Australians was drawn. Mr Blackham, the Australian captain, after having won the toss, had, it was thought by many most unwisely, put Marylebone in; but had his side held the catches his judgment would have proved pretty correct.

As it was, the first day's play left the home side in a comfortable position, for they had gained the substantial total of 424, while four of Australia's best wickets (those of Messrs Lyons, Bannerman, Giffen and Trott) were secured for 84. On the second day, the excellent stand for the last wicket and the magnificent hitting of Mr Lyons brought back all the interest in the game, and Saturday was reached with the contest still open. Marylebone then got the visitors' six remaining wickets pretty cheaply for 100 runs.

Although there were only 167 runs to obtain, it is almost unnecessary to say that the colonials infused the greatest spirit into the fourth innings. Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart, however, seemed to be masters of the situation. After playing for some time in the most careful style, both batsmen began to hit, and were so well set that it seemed likely they would get the runs themselves, when play was stopped by rain. Even after their return, when 80 runs (nearly half the required number) were gained, defeat seemed to be staring the colonials in the face. With the downfall of these two batsmen, however, Marylebone's hopes waned, and the capture of seven for 106 and eight for 127 thoroughly turned the game in Australia's favour. The match was drawn – 14 runs being required and two wickets to fall.

Just as the ground had been cleared at half-past 11 a heavy shower fell and play did not commence till 20 minutes to 12. Mr Bannerman (44) and Mr Graham (3) then proceeded to the wickets. The bowlers were the same as on the previous evening – Attewell (Nursery) and J T Hearne. A cut for three by Mr Graham sent the score to 250, and Mr Bannerman hit the ball to the ring. The bowling, however, was very good, as may be gathered from the fact that four maiden overs were sent down in succession, and that only a couple of singles were obtained in six overs. Mr Graham then drove Hearne to the off for four, and Mr Bannerman sent the same bowler to the on with the like result. This brought Mr Nepean on for Hearne at 266. Seven runs came from his first over, which included a leg hit for four to Mr Bannerman. Then Mr Graham secured seven in an over from Attewell by a cut and two drives. With the total at 284 a heavy downpour stopped play for 40 minutes.

Shacklock now took up the bowling for Attewell and Hearne for Mr Nepean. Bannerman made seven by a late cut and leg hit, and soon afterwards another four fell to him from an off-drive. Three maiden overs followed, and when Mr Bannerman had made another five he was bowled off his thigh. He had been batting for four hours and ten minutes, and had made several fine hits. His chief figures were ten fours, three threes and seven twos. [Five] for 302. Mr Coningham was sent back without scoring, and Mr Gregory came to the aid of Mr Graham, who, four runs later, was out to a remarkably fine catch at wicket. He had been batting one hour and 40 minutes. Seven for 306. Mr M'Leod arrived, and Mr Gregory batted pretty freely until the total was advanced to 336, when Mr M'Leod was splendidly caught at slip. Luncheon was now taken.

Mr Trumble, who went in after the interval, made a lucky four through the slips and was then caught at wicket. Mr Blackham, the last man, then joined Mr Gregory. Shacklock and Hearne still had charge of the bowling, and at length the last-named bowler found the way to Mr Gregory's wicket. Total 347; length of innings, five hours 10 min.

Marylebone had 167 runs to make for victory. Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart went in at 3.20. Mr Bruce bowled an over, in which Dr Grace gained a single. Rain delayed play for a few minutes. Mr Giffen was the other bowler. Both batsmen showed great patience and four maiden overs were sent down in succession. Dr Grace then cut Mr Giffen for a couple. Three singles followed, when the Gloucestershire captain made a cut for three. A ball of Mr Giffen's then completely beat him and must have gone very close to the wicket. Mr Stoddart, who had been batting half an hour for a single, made a leg-hit for four, a stroke he repeated in the next over. A splendid drive to the on by this batsman from Mr Bruce sent the ball over the canvas and caused 30 to be recorded as the result of 40 minutes' play.

Mr Coningham relieved Mr Bruce at 35. Mr Stoddart, among other items, cut the new bowler well for four, and the first 50 runs had taken as many minutes to obtain. Mr Trott was tried for Mr Giffen. A sensational hit was now made by Mr Stoddart off Mr Coningham. He sent the ball to square leg over the grand stand, for which six were allowed. In the same over he had cut the ball to the boundary. Messrs Giffen and Trumble were now given charge of the attack, but at 72 another downpour delayed the game for 25 minutes. On resuming Mr M'Leod bowled in place of Mr Trumble, and in his second over Mr Stoddart was caught at slip. Among his hits were a six and six fours.

Gunn assisted Grace, who drove the ball to the long field, where Mr Gregory ran in several yards and, judging it capitably, caught it. Two for 86. Flowers arrived, and had a narrow escape of being run out. Then Mr Giffen sent in a slow ball nearly full-pitched, which took Gunn's wicket. Flowers contributed a single and then played on. Four wickets had now fallen for 88. Mr Marchant assisted Mr Wilson, who caused the hundred to be reached at 5.35. There were yet 67 runs wanting when Mr Marchant was smartly caught at slip. Mr Nepean next appeared and fell to a yorker. Sixty-five runs were still required and only four wickets left with which to get them. The excitement became intense.

Mr Wilson was next assisted by Attewell. The first-named batsman had played very carefully, but at 106 a magnificent catch at sharp mid-on dismissed him. Seven down. Shacklock arrived and batted well, making an exceptionally fine square-leg hit for four and cutting each bowler for three. When he had obtained 15, however, he was well caught at third man. On Hearne's joining Attewell at 10 minutes past 6 there were 40 runs required for victory and only 20 minutes in which to get them. The Middlesex man played sound cricket, while Attewell went in for hitting. He paid most attention to Mr Giffen, from whom he obtained a late cut for four and a straight drive to the

pavilion. Hearne also made an off drive from this bowler. All efforts to separate these players was fruitless, and at half-past 6 the match was drawn, Marylebone being 13 runs behind and two wickets to fall. There were again about 10,000 spectators.

18 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3933.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 May, page 11)

After their reverse at Cambridge the majority of the Gentlemen of England team (with Briggs) visited Oxford yesterday to meet the University team. Successful in the toss, Oxford went in on a wicket rendered easy by the rain. Messrs Palairet started the batting, while Briggs and Mr Woods had charge of the early bowling.

A most unpromising start was made, as a catch at wicket disposed of Mr R C N Palairet when only four runs had been scored. His brother and Mr Mordaunt, however, improved matters, and Mr Ferris relieved Mr Woods. The effect of the change was to cause Mr Mordaunt to be taken at cover-point. Two for 49. Mr Fry joined Mr L C H Palairet, and both hit freely. In spite of bowling changes 77 were recorded at the luncheon hour without further mishap.

On resuming the play had only proceeded for a quarter of an hour when rain stopped it. The match was afterwards continued, however, and at 98 Briggs relieved Mr Ferris. At length, when the total had reached 121, Mr L C H Palairet was bowled by the former; he had been batting two hours and a half for his 74; his principal figures were four fours, two threes and 13 twos. Mr Fry, who had also shown fine form, was out at 158; he had been two hours and 25 minutes getting his 59, and Mr Rice was batting nearly two hours for 37 . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 May, page 9)

Although rain interfered with this match at Oxford on Thursday, it did not prevent the University from obtaining 270 runs, with three wickets in hand. Play was continued yesterday at a quarter to 12 in rather doubtful weather. Mr Bathurst (10) and Mr Wood (25) restarted their batting to the attacks of Mr Hornsby and Briggs.

Play only lasted for ten minutes when rain stopped it, and indeed there were several interruptions owing to the weather throughout the day. Mr Wood was taken at wicket and Mr Brain caught by Mr Llewelyn. Mr Bathurst and Mr Wilson put on 35 for the tenth wicket. Then the latter was bowled. Total, 321.

The Gentlemen made a poor start against Mr Wood's lobs, and three batsmen were out for 33 runs. Messrs Llewelyn and Henery added 48. Mr Wood, with his lobs, got the batsmen out quickly, and the eighth wicket fell for 126. Mr Ferris and Mr Philipson made a fine stand and 93 were put on when the latter was out, leg before wicket, and the tenth wicket fell at 221. Stumps were drawn earlier than usual because of the summer eights.

Day 3 (report from Monday 22 May, page 8)

Friday night had left each side with a completed innings, and on the third day the Gentlemen followed on with arrears of 100. Before the luncheon interval five of the visitors were dismissed for 95 runs; but the subsequent stand of Briggs and Mr Ferris deprived the Dark Blues of their chances of a victory. In 95 minutes these batsmen scored 154 runs. Briggs, who was bowled by Mr Wilson,

then left for a brilliant 88, in which were eight fours, five threes and nine twos. Beyond perhaps a sharp return to the Oxford captain his innings contained no error.

Then followed further fast scoring by Messrs Hornsby and Ferris, especially by the former, who contributed in less than 40 minutes no fewer than 45 runs towards the 65 added during his stay. Mr Philipson was Mr Ferris's next companion, but "Time" was soon reached and the game was left drawn. In about three hours Mr Ferris had made 79 by sound hitting and had given no chance. His principal items were nine fours, four threes and eight twos, and it is also worthy of note that the batsman was not out in each innings, scoring in the aggregate over 100 runs.

The Gentlemen were 280 on with three wickets to fall when stumps were drawn. Mr Wood's lobs, which had been very effective on Thursday, were scored from freely on Saturday, and Mr Hornsby twice hit them over the ring.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128145.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 19 May, page 11)

The cricket at Derby yesterday in the match between the powerful Surrey eleven and Derbyshire was very interesting. It was noteworthy that Abel, whose eyes have caused him some trouble during the winter, reappeared for the southern county.

Winning the toss and going in first on a wicket which grew difficult under the effects of the sun, the home side fared badly. Their disasters set in with the breaking of the 90 minutes' partnership of Chatterton and Mr Wright, who raised the score to 74 for the second wicket. Three more batsmen went for 12 runs, and after luncheon the other five were dismissed in 40 minutes for an addition of 16. Richardson had bowled with great effect, and his eight wickets averaged only 4.5 runs each.

Surrey in a little over two hours got a lead of 32, and at the cost of only four wickets. Hayward followed up his Oval successes with another good innings, and in an hour and a quarter made six fours, four threes and singles. Baldwin and Mr Read, getting together at 80, played out time.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 20 May, page 9)

Surrey left off on Thursday night at Derby with an advantage, and throughout yesterday this was fully maintained. There were several interruptions by rain and twice early in the day the game had to be stopped.

Baldwin and Mr Read, after adding altogether 81, were separated, the former being cleverly caught at point. Lockwood profited little by a couple of escapes and he was caught at wicket, while similar catches disposed of Ayres and Mr Read. The last-named was batting two hours and a quarter for his 67. The luncheon interval was reached with eight men out for 204; but subsequently Richardson and Brockwell put on 60 for the tenth partnership in three-quarters of an hour, the former being eventually caught at cover-point.

Derbyshire, who were 168 behind, lost Mr Wright at 15, but Bagshaw and Chatterton obtained 53 before Bagshaw fell to a catch at point. Storer and Chatterton afterwards played steadily . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 22 May, page 8)

On Friday night the home side were 58 runs behind, and had lost four wickets in the second innings. On Saturday morning the outstanding batsmen averaged about 11 runs each and thus managed to avert an innings defeat. Richardson bowled successfully and had the good record for the match of 12 wickets for 96 runs.

Mr Shuter and Abel went in to get the 11 necessary for Surrey to win, and at a quarter past 2 Mr Shuter made the winning hit and Surrey won by ten wickets.

22 May: LANCASHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3934.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 May, page 9)

This proved a very popular fixture at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday. Kent had first innings, which lasted the greater part of the day and produced 191 runs. For this very good score they were mostly indebted to Mr W H Patterson, who retains his fine form in a remarkable manner considering the little time which he is able to devote to cricket.

It was after Mr Marchant and A Hearne had scored 30 for the first wicket that Mr Patterson went in, and he remained unconquered for three hours and a quarter, carrying out his bat for 82. Twice he narrowly escaped being stumped by Mr Kemble, but his defence throughout was most finished. Among his contributions were five fours, eight threes and eight twos. Mr Marchant had made 35 out of the first 42 runs before being bowled. Messrs Wilson and Fox also showed fair form. A feature of the innings, which ended at 20 minutes to 5, was the bowling of Briggs, who was kept on the whole of the three hours and three-quarters over which the batting extended; his eight wickets averaged a fraction less than 11 runs each.

When Lancashire went in four good men were lost for 44 runs in an hour; but Ward, Briggs and Tinsley batted steadily, and at the finish Lancashire were 99 behind with five wickets in hand. It will be noted that Watson is absent from the Lancashire team, in which Mr Hornby once more appears. Kent are trying a new wicket-keeper, Mr Layman, of Lee.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 May, page 11)

On a wicket that in some degree assisted the bowlers, Kent got much the better of their match with Lancashire at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday. It was, however, only towards the close of the day that their superiority was manifested chiefly by the aid of Walter Hearne's effective bowling.

The state of affairs on Monday night was pretty even, as Lancashire, having got out their rivals for 191, had made 92 for the loss of five men. The rest of their innings extended from 11.35 to 12.50, and in this time 74 runs were put on. Briggs' vigorous batting was the best point in the morning's play. He advanced his overnight figures from 29 to 66, and was then caught at mid-off, being seventh out at 153. Among his items were five fours, six threes and seven twos.

Going in a second time with a lead of 25, the southern county started well, Mr Marchant and Hearne making 62 before the latter sent the ball into the hands of point. Mr Marchant, however, continued to bat brilliantly, but was fourth to leave – taken at long-on at 117. His innings extended over two hours and his chief hits were seven fours, five threes and seven twos. The remaining batsmen added 52, and the venture came to an end after three and a quarter hours' play.

Lancashire went in with 194 necessary for victory, but W Hearne followed up his early bowling successes, and five of the home side had fallen to him at the drawing of stumps, leaving 156 still to be made by the rest of the side.

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

On the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday, Kent managed to secure a pretty substantial victory. At the drawing of stumps on the previous evening, Lancashire had 195 set them for victory but, owing to the effective bowling of W Hearne, they had lost half their wickets for 39 runs.

Play was resumed at 20 minutes to 12, when Tinsley (10) and Baker (2) faced the attacks of A and W Hearne. A very poor start was made as, with only a single added, Baker was bowled. Mr Hornby joined Tinsley and the prospect brightened. Half an hour's play produced 31 runs, and then Tinsley was dismissed and Ellis filled the vacancy. A catch at slip disposed of Mr Hornby. Mr Kemble was caught at deep square-leg; but Ellis and Mold batted well and put on 24 runs for the last wicket, Mold then being secured by cover-point. Total 114. The bowling of Walter Hearne in the double innings was excellent, as he was credited with 15 wickets for 114 runs. From the full score it will be seen that Kent won by 80 runs.

22 May: MIDDLESEX v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3935.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 May, page 9)

Lord's has not often been so largely attended at the start of a match as it was yesterday, when at noon there were fully eight thousand people on the ground and hundreds in the roadway awaiting their turn for admission. During the day 13,127 paid at the gates and it is estimated that, including members, there were in the afternoon nearly 16,000 persons present. The weather was charming and a bright, clear light shone throughout the whole of the day.

Both sides are strong in batting. Somerset were fortunate in winning the toss, and at five minutes past 12 Messrs Fowler and Hewett started play. Hearne led off from the pavilion end and Rawlin was the other bowler. The first three-quarters of an hour yielded 50 runs, and a single later Mr Nepean went on for Rawlin, who crossed to the pavilion end. The run-getting now slackened a little. Phillips relieved Rawlin at 72. Mr Fowler completed his 50 in 55 minutes. The "100" went up after exactly an hour's play. About five minutes later Mr Hewett finished his 50. With the total at 110, however, Mr Fowler was clean bowled. Mr Robinson arrived and Hearne went on at the pavilion end. This proved to be a capital change, as, in the first over, Mr Robinson was splendidly caught at deep cover point. Two for 113. Mr Roe joined Mr Hewett and runs continued to come quickly. At the luncheon interval the total had been advanced to 154, Mr Nepean having been put on for the last over.

On resuming Hearne and Rawlin bowled, and before a run had been made Mr Hewett fell to a sharp catch at slip; he had been batting two hours for his 77, in which were 14 fours. Mr Trask's stay proved brief, and Mr Woods, after driving the ball to the pavilion rails, had a narrow escape of being run out, and was then clean bowled. Half the wickets down for 168. Mr Poynton next arrived. Mr Roe and the latter batted pretty freely until 192 was reached, when he cut the ball into point's hands. Mr Winter was quickly bowled, and then Mr Poynton fell to the wicket-keeper. Nichols and Tyler became partners, and the "200" was signalled at 3.40. The latter was soon bowled, but Nichols and Mr Wickham batted carefully and with effect. The last wicket, in spite of bowling changes, put on 29 runs before Nichols was caught in the long field, and the innings closed at 3.25.

Middlesex began their batting brilliantly. Mr Webbe scored four from the first and last balls of Mr Woods's opening over. Then 13 came from Tyler's first and 11 from his second, making 31 runs in three overs; 20 of these were obtained by Mr Webbe. A lull followed, and after three maiden overs had been sent down Mr Stoddart was clean bowled. Mr Scott soon returned the ball to the bowler and Mr Foley arrived. Both he and the Middlesex captain continued to bat in a clean, effective manner. Mr Foley sent the ball to the square leg and on-side boundaries, and the hit of the day was then made by Mr Webbe – an on-drive from Nichols all along the ground to the crowd by the members' entrance gate. Tyler gave up the ball at 84 to Mr Woods, in whose first over Mr Foley secured eight by a square-leg hit and off-drive. Mr Webbe made a late cut for four, and the 100 was signalled after an hour's play. Another cut for four completed Mr Webbe's 50. As runs still came rapidly, Mr Woods was relieved by Mr Winter at 118, but Mr Foley, having cut him for four in his first over (which sent this batsman's score beyond the 50 at six o'clock), the latter was soon displaced by Tyler, whose third ball knocked down Mr Foley's leg stump. Three for 150.

Mr O'Brien joined Mr Webbe and the score rose rapidly to 175, when Mr Webbe was smartly

caught at wicket. Stumps were now drawn . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 May, page 11)

Although the attendance at Lord's yesterday was, of course, far short of that on Monday, yet during the day there were many thousand present. On the previous evening Somerset had completed an innings for 235, and four of the home team's wickets were lost for 175. Mr O'Brien (the not-out with 21) was accompanied to the wickets by Rawlin. Tyler and Nichols were the bowlers.

Runs now came pretty fast, and the 200 was reached at ten minutes to 12. Rawlin made a leg-hit to the boundary and Mr O'Brien cut the ball for four. At 219 Nichols gave way to Mr Woods, while the former crossed over. Mr O'Brien was missed at point when he had made 47. Rawlin batted well, and an on-drive for a couple by him caused the Somerset total to be equalled at a quarter-past 12. Mr O'Brien, having finely cut Nichols over point's head to the rings, was caught at mid-off. He had been batting an hour and a quarter, for seven fours, eight twos and singles. Four runs later Rawlin was well caught at deep mid-off, and Messrs Nepean and Henery became partners. The latter was caught at wicket easily, and Phillips had the middle stump knocked out of the ground. Eight for 263.

Mr M'Gregor's stay was short – clean bowled – and Hearne joined Mr Nepean. The fresh comer made a capital on-drive to the boundary and the amateur hit with considered freedom, so much so that at 291 Tyler was brought on again for Nichols. This had the desired effect, as in the second over of the change Hearne was capitally caught at long-on. Total, 292.

Somerset, with arrears of 57, began their second venture at 20 minutes past 1 with Messrs Fowler and Hewett. Hearne (pavilion) and Rawlin were the bowlers. Mr Hewett sent the latter to leg for four, but this was his only score, as Hearne clean bowled him. Mr Robinson, who took his place, drove Hearne well to the off boundary, and then he was caught by slip, while without alteration in the total Mr Fowler was clean bowled. Three for 25. The luncheon interval was now taken.

Afterwards Mr Roe fell to a catch at slip before a run had been scored. Mr Trask was joined by Mr Woods, who at once gave a chance to the wicket-keeper. Sixteen runs were then scored by Mr Trask in four hits, to which Mr Woods responded with an off-drive and leg-hit for four each in an over from Rawlin. Then a couple to Mr Woods caused the deficit to be made up at 3 o'clock. Both batsmen seemed to be well set, but at 66 Mr Trask was clean bowled. Five down. Mr Poynton assisted Mr Woods, and the latter twice drove Hearne for four. When the total had been advanced to 84, Mr Nepean relieved Rawlin. Still runs came, and a hit by Mr Poynton for four caused 100 to be recorded at 25 minutes past 3.

At 107 Phillips relieved Hearne, and his first ball Mr Woods drove to long-on, where Mr Stoddart caught it, and in the same over Mr Winter, who had taken his place, was secured by point. These misfortunes were followed by another, as a single later Mr Poynton was clean bowled. Eight for 108. Nichols and Tyler stayed together for a few overs, and then the latter was taken at cover-slip. The rev Mr Wickham arrived, and the capture of the last wicket gave considerable trouble. Although the bowling was twice changed, a cut for three by Mr Wickham sent up the 150, but a little later this gentleman was caught at slip, 41 runs having been put on since the fall of the ninth wicket. Total 157.

The home county now required 101 to win, and at ten minutes to 5 Messrs Webbe and Stoddart

went in to the attacks of Mr Woods (pavilion) and Tyler. The batsmen set to work in earnest. In the opening over Mr Webbe obtained ten by a leg-hit and two off-drives, and Mr Stoddart sent Tyler to square-leg for four. The free hitting was so well maintained that at 37 Nichols went on for Mr Woods. Fifty runs were registered in 20 minutes. The scoring of the batsmen was very even, as each was credited with 26, which made up the total of 52. Runs continued to come freely, and at 71 Mr Fowler relieved Nichols. This effected a separation, as in his first over Mr Stoddart returned him the ball. One for 73.

Eleven runs were added, and then Mr Webbe was secured at point. Messrs Scott and Foley next became partners, but they were soon separated, as the former was caught at mid-off after Tyler had nearly missed it. Only 14 runs were required for victory when Phillips joined Mr Foley, and at five minutes to 6 he made the winning hit. From the complete score which follows, it will be seen that Middlesex won by seven wickets.

22 May: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3936.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 May, page 9)

The visits of Surrey to Nottingham would seem to have lost none of their attractiveness, for, in spite of the southern team not being so strong as could have been wished, there were about 12,000 spectators on the Trent-bridge Ground yesterday, nearly 10,000 of whom paid for admission. There were missing from the Surrey ranks two notable players who have formerly figured in this match. Lohmann, as is well known, is recruiting his health at the Cape, but none were prepared for the illness of Maurice Read, as he appeared at the Oval last week. Abel, also, has been suffering from an affection of the eyes and, although playing, cannot be at his best. Under these circumstances Surrey played Hayward and Baldwin. Neither Marshall nor Richardson had previously appeared at Nottingham.

The wicket was slow at starting, but improved as the day wore on. Surrey won the toss, and at ten minutes past 12 sent in Mr Shuter and Abel. The bowlers were Shacklock and Attewell. Not a run had been scored when Abel fell to third man. Hayward came in and 20 were soon obtained. Then Shacklock bowled the new-comer, and at 21 he also sent back Mr Shuter. Three good wickets down at an average of seven runs apiece was a bad outlook for the visitors.

Mr W W Read and Henderson improved matters and added 33m the former doing most of the scoring. Mee, who had gone on for Attewell, bowled Henderson at 49. Baldwin arrived, and the play became very slow. At 60 Attewell resumed, and immediately got Mr W W Read caught at wicket; he had been batting an hour for his 32. Five for 65. Lockwood assisted Baldwin, and at luncheon the total stood at 68.

On resuming Lockwood batted vigorously and severely punished the bowling of Attewell and Shacklock. Thrice he sent the ball over the spectators. Flowers and Mee were now put on. Lockwood ran up his 50 at half-past 3, and at the end of 65 minutes he had scored 63 out of 80 runs added since the fall of the fifth wicket. A remarkably fine catch by Mr Dixon, fielding in front of square leg, then dismissed him. Baldwin did not long survive Lockwood's departure, his patient innings being closed by a return catch. Mr Key and Brockwell were next together, but at 160 the latter was caught at third man. Marshall then joined Mr Key, and the attack for a long time was successfully defied. No fewer than 47 were added before the dismissal of Marshall. Richardson, the last man, helped Mr Key to add 19 runs, after which the amateur was caught at slip. Total, 238; duration of innings, four hours and a half.

The home county began their batting with Mr Dixon and Shrewsbury to the bowling of Lockwood and Richardson. When only 18 were registered Mr Dixon, who had made 16 of this number, skied the ball to mid-off and was caught. Gunn came in, but at 23 he was bowled, while nine runs later Daft returned the ball, and at 36 Mee was bowled. Stumps were now drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 May, page 11)

Surrey seemed to have the game in hand throughout the whole of yesterday, when Trent-bridge was again thronged with spectators. The position of the game overnight was as follows: - Surrey, 238; Notts, 36 for four wickets. When the game was continued at half-past 11 Shrewsbury (not out 5)

began the batting with Barnes. Lockwood and Richardson again had charge of the attack.

Nothing came from the first four overs, and then Shrewsbury, who had not appeared at home with the bowling and who had been batting for close upon an hour for five runs, was caught at slip. Half the wickets were now lost for 36. Flowers joined Barnes, and he soon grew busy. After making a drive for three from Richardson he obtained seven in one over from Lockwood, off whom Barnes also made a drive for four. Nine runs were accredited to Flowers in one of Richardson's overs. The score was speedily advanced to 71, and the batsmen appeared to be well set. Such, however, was not the case, as Barnes's leg-stump was knocked out of the ground by a "yorker". The retiring batsman had played very quietly, and of the 35 runs added since the fall of the fifth wicket he had only obtained seven.

Nottinghamshire disasters were not yet over, as, without the addition of a single, Attewell and C W Wright were bowled. Eight wickets were now lost for 71, and the chances of saving the follow-on were almost out of the question. Flowers, who continued to bat well, had an able companion in Shacklock. They soon put a more cheerful aspect on affairs. Flowers batted with the utmost vigour, making, among other items, a cut and square-leg hit for four each. Shacklock obtained a dozen in four hits, and the signalling of the 100 before half-past 12 was greeted with hearty cheering. A ball cut by Flowers struck Mr W W Read on the hand, but it could scarcely be called a chance. When the total had reached 106 Shacklock fell to an easy catch at cover-slip. Sherwin arrived, and soon afterwards Flowers reached his 50. The former batsman was then bowled, the innings having realized 114. Flowers's not-out 50 was made up of five fours, five threes, five twos and singles.

Nottinghamshire, who had the heavy deficiency of 124, followed on at 12.55. Flowers then returned to the wickets with Shrewsbury. Lockwood and Richardson again took up the attack. The start was hopeful, as Flowers made an exceptionally fine drive for four. This promise was not maintained, however, as when only 11 were scored he was clean bowled. Gunn assisted Shrewsbury, and it was expected that two such batsmen as these would be able [successfully to] resist the visitors' attack. Both of them, however, appeared to be at a loss with the bowling. They managed to advance the total to 30, and then Shrewsbury's off stump was struck out of the ground.

Barnes arrived to the assistance of Gunn, who scored eight from Richardson by a drive and leg-hit. The total having been taken to 59, Abel was tried for Richardson, this being the first change of the day. All seemed to be going well until close upon 2 o'clock when Lockwood clean bowled Barnes. Three for 63. Rain delayed the play until a quarter to 4, when Daft went in with Gunn. The latter was quickly caught at cover-slip, and the prospects of the home eleven became very gloomy. Mr Dixon assisted Daft, and both batsmen made the most of their chances to hit. The score was advanced so rapidly that a two-fold change in the attack was adopted. When the 100 had just been finished a catch at extra slip dismissed Daft, and Shacklock came. He and Mr Dixon managed, in spite of further bowling changes, to make up the 124 runs the county were in arrear at 4.40. Shacklock profited little by an escape Mr Key gave him at mid-on, as at 139 he cut the ball into point's hands. Mr Dixon was well supported by Attewell and caused the attack to be again varied. The newcomer had a life at the hands of Abel at slip, but after 42 runs had been added for the partnership he fell to third man. Seven for 181.

With Richardson again bowling, the innings quickly ended. Mr Dixon was caught by the wicket-keeper, standing back for an excellent 53, in which were six fours, three threes and five twos. Neither Mee nor Sherwin gave much trouble, and at 5.45 the innings closed for 196. Richardson's bowling again came out well, his record for the double innings being 14 wickets for 145 runs.

Surrey now wanted 73 to win, and in the last half an hour of the day 25 of these were made without loss of wicket.

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

As was quite foreshadowed on Tuesday evening Surrey gained an easy victory over Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge yesterday. The visitors wanted only 48 to win, with practically their second innings intact.

At 25 minutes past 12, Mr Shuter (eight) and Hayward (14) restarted their batting. Both Attewell and Shacklock bowled well and runs came slowly. The latter was particularly successful, for when seven had been added to the overnight total he caused Hayward to be caught at wicket; three runs later Mr Shuter was taken at mid-off and at 38 Baldwin was bowled. Messrs Key and Read were now together and quickly obtained the remaining 25 runs, Surrey winning by seven wickets.

There was a feeling of discontent during the match among many of the visitors, and at least some of the Notts players, that Richardson, while bowling fair generally, now and again throws a ball which proves fatal to the batsman. Should such be the case cricketers may rest assured that a county with Surrey's reputation will not countenance it.

22 May: SUSSEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3937.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 May, page 9)

Heavy scoring has so often characterized the matches between these counties that, with fine weather and a fast wicket at Hove yesterday, quick run-getting was expected. However, the day's play, while very interesting, furnished nothing remarkable in the way of big totals.

Sussex had the advantage of first innings on a hard wicket. Messrs Wilson, Murdoch and Brann, and Bean, all reached double figures, but were all out for 75. The best defence was shown by Messrs Newham and Smith, who put of 57 for the fifth wicket in three-quarters of an hour and between them scored 104 runs. Mr Newham played very steadily and took an hour and 40 minutes to make his 34; he was fifth out at 132. In marked contrast to Mr Newham's style was the vigorous form of Mr Smith, who scored his 76 in 95 minutes, with a couple of narrow escapes. He was in fourth wicket down at 75 and ninth out at 194. Murch had a very good bowling average.

Gloucestershire went in for an hour and three-quarters, and in the first 45 minutes lost Dr W G Grace, Painter and Mr Rice for 61. Messrs Ferris and Kitcat, however, put on 73 in an hour, being still not out at the call of "Time".

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 May, page 11)

Remarkable batting by Mr G L Wilson and Bean, in the latter part of the day, furnished the characteristic of yesterday's cricket at the Hove Ground, Brighton. When play ceased on Monday night, Sussex had completed their first innings for 202 and Gloucestershire had lost three wickets for 133.

Rain delayed the start yesterday until 12.25, when Messrs Ferris and Kitcat, who had got together at 61, continued the defence. Their partnership for the fourth wicket produced altogether 123 as the result of an hour and a half's play. Mr Kitcat's 52 included five fours, two threes and five twos. Mr Ferris was the seventh out, at 243, caught at slip for 106; his innings lasted three hours and a quarter and, beyond a difficult chance at the wicket, when at 89, he made no error. Throughout his play possessed great steadiness, although his figures would infer considerable vigour in hitting: his runs were obtained by 15 fours, three threes, ten twos and singles. Subsequently Roberts and Murch put on 44 for the ninth wicket, and it was half-past 3 before Gloucestershire completed their innings. Total 297, which gave the visitors a lead of 95.

The three or four thousand spectators then witnessed the great batting triumphs of Mr Wilson and Bean, who, by the most brilliant hitting, scored 217 for the first wicket in two hours and a quarter. Both men showed much precision in timing the ball and, beyond a possible chance, when at 63, by Mr Wilson to cover-point, neither seemed to make a mistake. Their pace of scoring, too, was curiously even; each completed his 100 in the same over; while, when Mr Wilson was at last caught at point for 105, he was only two runs behind the professional. Mr Wilson's contributions were 19 fours, a three, seven twos and 12 singles. At the close of the day Sussex were in the following favourable position . . .

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

Yesterday at Brighton Sussex gained the victory by the narrow margin of three runs. After the brilliant opening of their innings on Tuesday evening by Mr Wilson and Bean, who not only rubbed off the 95 arrears, but put the side 122 in front, yesterday morning's batting by the home county was feeble, for, as the pitch remained firm and true, almost everyone was prepared for a long score. But Roberts and Murch bowled effectively, and the last eight men were dismissed in an hour and 20 minutes for 77 runs.

Bean, who was not out with 107, did not long have the company of Mr Murdoch – caught at slip – while Messrs Smith and Brann were both quickly out, and with Guttridge caught at long-off six Sussex wickets were down for 240. Bean was seventh to leave at 254, having increased his overnight figures from 107 to 120. His brilliant innings extended over three hours, during which time he did not give a chance, while his cutting throughout was particularly good; he made 19 fours, two threes and seven twos. Mr Newham batted steadily and, aided by Butt, put on 36 for the ninth wicket, the innings eventually closing for 294.

Gloucestershire wanted 200 to win, and as the conditions of weather and turf were favourable, the task did not appear to be one beyond their abilities. The catching of Mr Radcliffe at cover-point and the bowling of Dr W G Grace for 23 did not furnish a hopeful start; but the next partnership, that between Mr Ferris and Painter, quite changed the prospect. By fine free cricket these batsmen in 65 minutes put on 104 runs, and Gloucestershire seemed to be rapidly approaching victory. But the turning point of the match came when Humphreys's lobs were tried at 114. In five overs four wickets were taken, and the figures at the fall of the sixth were 148. Painter's 51 included eight fours and two twos, and Mr Ferris (whose aggregate for the match was 153) hit seven fours, two threes and two twos.

Gloucestershire now wanted 52 to win, and Dr E M Grace and Mr de Winton met with such success that before they were separated 35 were put on. Mr de Winton then fell to the lobs. With three wickets left and 17 runs to get Murch arrived, but at 190 Dr E M Grace was dismissed by Humphreys, who, three runs later, got Murch stumped, while the bowling of Board by Mr Smith at 196 closed the innings and enabled Sussex to win by three runs. There was an enthusiastic scene at the close of the match within a few minutes of 5 o'clock. Last year the solitary victory of Sussex among the leading counties was at Brighton over Gloucestershire.

22 May: YORKSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3938.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 May, page 9)

There were about 17,000 people at Brammall-lane [sic], Sheffield, yesterday to witness the first match of the Australians in Yorkshire. Naturally some disappointment was felt when it became known that two such prominent players as Mr G Giffen and Mr Blackham were not included in the eleven.

Mr Bannerman, who captained the side, lost the toss, and Yorkshire began their batting with Mr Woodhead and Wardall. Messrs M'Leod and Coningham undertook the attack. Runs came very steadily until 18 was reached, when Mr Trumble relieved Mr Coningham, and with six runs only added both batsmen were dismissed, Mr Woodhead caught low down at mid-on and Wardall bowled. Tunnicliffe and Wainwright caused the score to rise rapidly to 39, when Mr M'Leod gave up the ball to Mr Coningham. The separation, however, was effected from the other end, as at 41 Mr Trumble clean bowled Wainwright. Peel arrived, and Tunnicliffe continued to bat well, causing Mr Bruce to be put on in place of Mr Coningham at 57. Twice was Tunnicliffe missed off the new bowler by Mr Coningham from cover-point and by Mr Trumble at slip from consecutive balls; the batsman had then scored 25.

The play now became very quiet, but at length Tunnicliffe drove a ball from Mr Trumble and was caught at long-on. Ulyett was soon secured at wicket, and Peel (who had been in for three-quarters of an hour) was out to Mr Trumble. Brown and Moorhouse now became partners, and the former was missed on the off side by Mr Graham. With the total at 85, Moorhouse fell to a catch at slip, and at the interval seven batsmen were out for 90. After lunch, Messrs Bruce and Trumble still had charge of the bowling. The 100 was soon telegraphed. Ten runs later Mr M'Leod went on for Mr Bruce, and at 118 Mounsey was caught at cover-point., 33 runs having been put on since the fall of the seventh wicket. Hirst was quickly out, but Brown and Hunter stayed for a little while, and then the latter was caught at wicket, the innings being over at 3.30 for a total of 137.

At a quarter to 4 the Australians started their innings with Messrs Lyons and Bannerman. Peel and Wainwright were the bowlers. Mr Lyons played the first ball he received on to his wicket, and Mr Trott fell to the wicket-keeper when five runs only had been obtained. Messrs Bruce and Bannerman stemmed for a while the tide of misfortune which seemed to have set in against the Australians. Both batted steadily and took the total to 41, when Hirst superseded Wainwright and with his third ball bowled Mr Bruce's off stump. He had played well for his 30. Only a single was added, and then Mr Graham was finely caught in the long-field.

Mr Gregory joined Mr Bannerman, and with the score at 61 Peel gave up the ball to Wainwright. This change proved most effective, for in the second over Mr Gregory was well caught at long-on, and in the third Mr Bannerman fell to a catch at slip, while from the no-ball Mr M'Leod was stumped, and soon afterwards Mr Coningham was taken at wicket. Messrs W Giffen and Trumble, in a bad light, advanced the score to 80, and then the latter was caught by Tunnicliffe. Mr Jarvis, the last man, was thrown out, the innings closing at 20 minutes to 6 for 84. Yorkshire, with 53 runs in hand, went in again, and at the end of the day had made 11 without loss of wicket.

The reason that caused Messrs Blackham and G Giffen to stand out was their need of rest, and this, coupled with the absence of Mr Turner (who, although better, is still unable to play), considerably

weakened the side. It will be remembered also that the turf at Brammall-lane has been relaid. The wicket was soft and greatly helped the bowlers.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 May, page 11)

Rain in the early morning at Sheffield, yesterday, followed by dry weather, further spoilt the wicket, which continued to help the bowlers. There was again a very large attendance, about 16,000 people being present at Brammall-lane. It will be remembered that when stumps were drawn on Monday evening each side had completed an innings, and Yorkshire, with 53 in hand, had scored 11 runs in their second venture.

The county recommenced their batting at five minutes past 12, when Brown (7) and Mr Wood (4) faced the attacks of Messrs Trumble and M'Leod. The wicket showed early signs of its false nature. Mr Bruce soon relieved Mr M'Leod, and at 22 got Brown caught by short mid-on. Mr Trumble then bowled Mr Woodhead. Tunnicliffe and Wardall were not long together, as, after the latter had been missed at mid-off by Mr Bannerman, Tunnicliffe was bowled at 27. Mr Trumble soon disposed of Wardall and Wainwright, and five wickets were down for 38.

Peel adopted the right tactics under the circumstances by hitting, and met with some success. At 49 Ulyett was finely caught, and eight runs later Peel was stumped. Mounsey and Moorhouse were now associated, and the former was missed off Mr Bruce at cover-point by Mr Coningham. He was well caught, however, at point by Mr Trott, and eight wickets were down for 66, when rain stopped play at half-past 1. A delay of a quarter of an hour ensued, and then Hirst was caught at mid-on and Hunter out leg-before-wicket to Mr M'Leod, who had relieved Mr Bruce. The home side were all out at 2 o'clock for the poor total of 71.

The Australians required 125 to win, and after luncheon they sent in Messrs Lyons and Bannerman. The bowlers were Peel and Wainwright. Mr Lyons began promisingly by making six in the first over, but at ten he was caught at long-on. Mr Trott came in and gave a difficult chance to Moorhouse at slip. Mr Bannerman soon skied the ball and was caught at sharp leg. Nor did the Australians' discomfiture end here, for Mr Trott was caught at cover-point and Mr Bruce was bowled, off stump, with the next ball. Four wickets were now lost for 24. Mr Gregory and Mr Graham were next together. The former was out to Wainwright at 35; a single later Mr W Giffen was bowled, and at 42 Mr Graham was dismissed in the same manner. Mr Coningham was stumped and Mr Trumble was caught by Moorhouse. Nine wickets had now fallen for 44 runs after an hour's play. Messrs M'Leod and Jarvis put on 16 for the last wicket, the former being caught at short-leg. Total, 60.

Mr Trumble's bowling in the match was excellent – viz., 12 wickets for 81; but Mr Bruce experienced a lot of ill-luck, as five batsmen were missed off his bowling. The Yorkshire fielding was good and the match was over at half-past 4, ending in a victory for the county by 64 runs. This is the second defeat of the Australians.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128376.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 23 May, page 9)

Between four and five thousand people visited the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday, when Essex placed a very good side in the field against Derbyshire. Going in first on a fast and true wicket, Derbyshire were not seen to any great advantage. Indeed, the majority of the team fell easy victims to the fine fast bowling of Mr Kortright, who was credited with the dismissal of seven batsmen, all bowled, for 39 runs. The visitors' innings lasted an hour and fifty minutes, and the steady defence of Davidson alone saved the side from discomfiture.

After luncheon the home eleven went in, and the early prospect for them was little brighter than had been that of their rivals. Mr Lucas, Mr Owen and four other good batsmen were out for 69; but much more spirit was infused into the game by Mr M'Gahey (an amateur batsman who last season played for the local club at Leyton) and Mr Hailey. These players by good hitting put on 67 runs in an hour for the seventh wicket. Of this number Mr M'Gahey made 37, included in which were seven fours; on his return to the pavilion he was received with enthusiastic applause.

Essex had by this time secured a lead of over 50 runs, an advantage that was strengthened by the next partnership – between Mr Hailey and Mead. The former reached his 50 after a stay of two hours and a quarter, and a few minutes later the record was 172 – twice the Derbyshire total. In another quarter of an hour the second hundred was passed; but, within a few minutes of “Time,” Mead was caught at wicket after he had helped to make 64 runs. Essex were then 115 ahead . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 24 May, page 11)

This match was continued at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday, and ended with a victory for Essex by nine wickets.

Wednesday 24 May, page 11: Leicestershire yesterday won their match with Hampshire, at Leicester, by an innings and 19 runs.

Warwickshire defeated Cheshire, at Birmingham, yesterday, by an innings and 102 runs.

25 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3939.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 May, page 5)

Carpenter, the young Essex professional, achieved a fine batting feat at Cambridge yesterday, when, playing for Marylebone against the University, he made 115. He went in first and was at the wickets three hours, during which time he contributed 13 fours, three threes and 14 twos . . .

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

A brilliant innings of 102 by Mr F S Jackson, the Cambridge captain, was the chief feature of yesterday's play in this match at Cambridge. He was batting two hours and a quarter, and the vigour of his cricket will be gleaned from the fact that he made 16 fours, a three and nine twos.

Mr A O Jones helped him to add 50, while later in the day came the long partnership of Messrs Ranjitsinhji and Perkins, who put on 91 in less than an hour. The latter hit a five and nine fours, and the former five fours and four threes. Messrs Gay and Bromley-Davenport contributed 60 for the last wicket, and the former carried his bat, having made a five, eight fours and eight twos. Mead, the Essex professional, bowled remarkably well in the long innings.

Marylebone, who were 84 behind, went in a second time, but met with considerable misfortune.

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 May, page 10)

Marylebone had met with so much ill-fortune in the last hour of the day at Cambridge on Friday that the University eleven were pretty well assured of victory. The M.C.C., with four wickets to fall and 13 runs still in arrears, continued their batting on Saturday morning at 20 minutes to 12.

Mr Foljambe accompanied the not-out, Davidson, to the wicket, but Mr Pope, who shared the bowling with Mr Burrough, quickly got the professional caught at slip, and Mr Foljambe was out the same way soon afterwards. Mead and Mr Robinson put on 27 for the last wicket, and at 20 minutes past 12 the innings closed for 112. Messrs Pope and Burrough had both bowled effectively, and the former's figures were especially good.

Messrs Latham and Hill quickly hit off the 29 runs necessary for victory, and Cambridge won by ten wickets. The University's other successes this season have been against the Gentlemen of England, Mr Thornton's England team and Yorkshire.

25 May: KENT v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3940.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 May, page 5)

Gloucestershire had the better of the play in their match with Kent on the Mote-park Ground, Maidstone, yesterday. The weather proved fine and a large company assembled.

On a wicket that to some extent helped the bowlers, the visitors took first innings, but prior to luncheon their prospects were not very bright. A Hearne and Wright bowled with considered success, and in the 95 minutes' play before the interval seven men were out for 105. Dr W G Grace was seen to advantage, and in his excellent 46 there were seven fours and six twos. During the afternoon Captain Luard and Roberts made a fine stand for the ninth wicket. The former played superbly, and Roberts's game, too, was sound. In 70 minutes 87 runs were put on. Of the 113 added by the last three wickets Captain Luard contributed 69; he was in an hour and three-quarters, and beyond a chance to cover-point (Mr Le Fleming) when 20 he made no mistake. His chief hits were 11 fours and eight twos. Wright bowled very well and his five wickets averaged only 11 runs each.

In the last hour of the day Kent found the visitors' bowling very effective, and they lost four wickets for 50.

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

Yesterday, at Mote-park, Maidstone, the Kent eleven were playing an uphill game the whole of the day, and at the close they were 96 runs ahead with two wickets in hand.

After dismissing Gloucestershire for 218 they had started badly on Thursday evening and lost four men for 50 runs. The six remaining wickets were captured in an hour and a half yesterday morning for 81, and the arrears of 88 necessitated a follow-on. Mr Ferris had bowled very successfully and his excellent analysis was worthy of his Australian reputation.

When Kent went in again Mr Marchant quickly left, but A Hearne and Mr Le Fleming added 65 runs in the next hour. The latter contributed a five, six fours and two threes. Three men were out for 92, after which Mr Knowles and Wilson put on 71 runs while they were together. The former batted with much vigour, making five fours, a three and six twos. Four other wickets were secured for an addition of 21.

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 May, page 10)

When stumps were drawn at Mote-park, Maidstone, on Friday night, Kent with two wickets to fall were 96 runs ahead, so that the probabilities were against Gloucestershire having any very severe task to perform in the second innings. The home side on Saturday morning were all out for an addition of nine, and Gloucestershire went in to get 106 for victory.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Ferris, who were at first opposed by W and A Hearne, began so well that any doubts that might have existed as to the result were quickly removed. In an hour and ten minutes no

fewer than 91 runs were made, and then Mr Ferris was bowled for 50; he had hit eight fours, a three and three twos. Mr Radcliffe was quickly dismissed, but Painter and his captain hit off the other runs, and Gloucestershire won by eight wickets. Dr W G Grace's 42 comprised six fours, three twos and 12 singles.

25 May: LANCASHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3941.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 May, page 5)

The wicket at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, was not very favourable for rapid scoring, and in the early part of the day the county batting was very feeble. Lancashire went in first, but before a run was scored Mr Steel and Smith were both taken at forward short-leg. Five men were out when only ten runs were recorded.

Albert Ward, who had been exercising great care, now had Tinsley for a partner, and before the sixth wicket fell 33 runs were added. Afterwards Mr Kemble stayed with Ward while 36 were scored. The innings closed just before 2 o'clock for 97, and Ward took out his bat for 45, in which were seven fours. Mr Giffen had bowled very well and his five wickets averaged ten runs each.

The Australian innings extended over the rest of the day. Mr Lyons made 40 out of the first 54 runs before being caught at cover-point, and the home score was passed with only three men lost. Four wickets were down for 113, after which Mr Bruce, who had been batting freely, and Mr Graham brought the figures up to 151. The former was then caught at mid-off, and without addition Mr Gregory left. Messrs M'Leod and Graham then played out time. Various catches were missed by the Lancastrians. Mr Lyons and Mr Bruce were each missed once, while Mr Graham was twice allowed to escape. The cricket was witnessed by about 14,000 spectators.

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

Lancashire showed little improvement in their play at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, with the result that the Australians were able to claim a very easy victory by an innings and 14 runs. On Thursday evening the visitors, with four wickets in hand, possessed a lead of 70.

Messrs Graham and M'Leod, the not outs, were soon separated. The former scored his 48 in an hour and 40 minutes, and among his hits were seven fours. Three-quarters of an hour were occupied by the colonials in completing their innings for an addition of 55 runs, leaving Lancashire 125 behind.

There were few points of interest in the county's second innings. Mr Steel did little; but Ward followed up his success on the first day with a well-played 25. Messrs M'Laren and Kemble also got a few runs, but the rest of the side found the Australian bowling and fielding much too good for them. The total reached only 111. Mr Giffen's analysis for the double innings was 11 for 91. There was a numerous company present and the feeble display of Lancashire proved very disappointing.

25 May: SURREY v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3942.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 May, page 5)

The matches between Surrey and Middlesex have always been very popular, so that with the fine weather and the counties each having a powerful team, it was not surprising to find about 7,000 people at the Oval yesterday afternoon. Surrey had strengthened their eleven since the victory at Trent-bridge by the inclusion of Maurice Read and Wood, the wicket-keeper; but Middlesex played the side that had beaten Somerset at the beginning of this week.

On a wicket that early gave signs of bumping, Surrey, who won the toss, took first innings; but the rapidity with which the batsmen were dismissed made the start almost sensational. In the first quarter of an hour Surrey lost four of their best men for nine runs. Mr Shuter was caught at wicket, a clever left-handed catch by Mr Scott at short-slip sent back Henderson, Hayward was finely stumped and Mr Read bowled. Maurice Read and Mr Key slightly improved matters, but they owed their success in some measure to the kindness of the Middlesex fieldsmen. Mr Key, when he had made only a single, was missed in successive overs from Rawlin, once at extra mid-off from a hard drive to Mr Webbe, and next at slip (Hearne); while Maurice Read gave Phillips a difficult chance at mid-on. The professional was then caught at slip and Lockwood was out leg-before, making six wickets down for 43.

With affairs looking so ominous for the home county, Baldwin and Mr Key were partners. Runs at first came very slowly, and at one time five successive maidens were sent down. Afterwards scoring became quite brisk. When he had made 15 Baldwin should have been caught by Mr Stoddart at mid-off. The latter soon made amends for this error, for, after Mr Webbe had tried Mr Nepean and Phillips (the latter had a turn at each end), he put on Mr Stoddart, who clean bowled Baldwin. In an hour the seventh wicket had produced 65 runs; Baldwin's share was 33 and he got his runs in capital style. After luncheon the Surrey innings was rapidly finished for 122. Mr Key took out his bat for 44 – an innings that was characterized by good resolute batting at a critical period. Hearne and Rawlin had both bowled well and would, of course, have had better analyses had all the catches been held.

Middlesex, after losing Mr Stoddart, who skied the ball to mid-off in the first over, met with much success during the partnership of Messrs Webbe and Scott. The batsmen were occasionally a little out in timing the fast bowling of Lockwood and Richardson, but they made many fine strokes, notably one drive for five by Mr Scott. Runs came fast and Richardson was very severely punished. Fifty were made in half an hour and, although Hayward was tried and Lockwood crossed over, to be afterwards relieved by Brockwell, the three figures were completed within an hour.

During the next 40 minutes the cricket was very full of incident. Mr Shuter failed to keep down the rate of run-getting by the numerous changes in the bowling, although this was rather the fault of the fieldsmen than of the bowlers. The Surrey score had been equalled at half-past 4, but with the record under the 150 Mr Scott gave three chances off Richardson; the mistakes were made by Mr Shuter at cover-point, by Henderson at slip (an easy chance) and by Wood, the wicket-keeper. With Lockwood on again at 154 the batsmen were at last separated, Mr Webbe being taken at third man. In an hour and 40 minutes the second wicket had put on 154 runs. Mr Webbe's 77 was the result of brilliant batting.

Two for 160 was a strong contrast to the poor Surrey total; but the home side captured the two next men very cheaply. Mr Foley failed to maintain the fine form shown by him at Lord's this season, and had his leg stump bowled out of the ground by a good length ball from Richardson, while Mr O'Brien quickly fell to Lockwood. Mr Scott was fifth out at 197, bowled leg stump: his cutting, driving and leg-hitting were excellent and, in spite of the chances mentioned, it was a fine innings. Two hours and a quarter were taken by him in making his 91.

Afterwards the most noteworthy points in the play were the fine catch at third man that got Mr Henery out, a mistake by Henderson at slip which allowed Mr Nepean to escape, and the steady batting of Mr Nepean and Rawlin. At the close the visitors had scored twice as many runs as Surrey and had four wickets in hand. The day's cricket had been full of interest; but the great feature was the fine batting of Messrs Webbe and Scott on the bad wicket.

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

After the character of the first day's cricket at the Oval, the decisive victory of Middlesex yesterday was not unexpected. The turf still assisted the bowlers, although perhaps in a less degree than on Thursday. The 7,000 people present at the Oval yesterday followed the game very closely and there was no lack of enthusiasm. The weather was dull and the wind blew strongly from the north-west.

Middlesex, who had scored twice as many runs as Surrey and had yet four wickets to fall, resumed batting at 11.35. Mr Nepean and Rawlin, who had fared pretty well overnight, got runs quickly off the bowling of Lockwood and Richardson; indeed, they put on 44 in half an hour, and the attack had been twice varied before. At 288 Rawlin was caught at third man. The seventh wicket had produced 85 runs in 70 minutes; Rawlin's share of these was 57. He had played vigorous cricket, making eight fours, four threes and two twos. His game was in strong contrast to the more careful style of Mr Nepean, who left in the following over, caught at slip off Mr W W Read's lob; he was in about two hours for his 42, in which were six fours. Mr M'Gregor stayed until the third hundred had been passed, and then had his off stump bowled out of the ground. Phillips was caught at cover-point and the innings came to an end at 12.35.

Middlesex had been batting some four hours and a quarter, and runs had averaged about 75 an hour. Lockwood and Richardson, who had done most of the bowling, were both freely hit and their wickets cost 30 runs each. Middlesex were 195 ahead.

Although the wicket showed some improvement, Surrey had a rather forlorn task before them. Mr Shuter altered his original order and put in first the two new men of the team. The stay of both was brief. Baldwin was out to a good catch at slip by Mr Scott, and only 11 runs were up when Hayward was caught by third man fielding very deep. Mr Walter Read and Henderson, each of whom failed in the first innings, were now together. Both played very well, but the good bowling had to be closely watched and runs came only slowly. Henderson, who in one instance was almost caught by Phillips at mid-on, stayed until 75, and was then bowled middle stump. The two Reads made a further stand, although Maurice should have been caught by Mr O'Brien at point when only a single. The professional played Hearne badly; but Mr Walter Read was in his best form and made one particularly fine drive from Rawlin for which six were run. Changes in the bowling were tried, in spite of which the 100 went up at 3.35, and Mr W W Read completed his 50 after a stay of 90 minutes. But Mr W W Read was out, leg before, at 115 for 55, a very good innings, comprising a six, seven fours, a three, five twos and singles.

Quickly afterwards Mr O'Brien atoned for his previous error at point by making two good catches, which disposed of Maurice Read and Mr Key, while Lockwood was clean bowled without having scored even a single in the match. Seven men were now out for 130. Mr Shuter and Brockwell infused much life into a losing game, and so free was their batting that in the course of 35 minutes 76 runs were added. There was a loud burst of applause when the innings defeat was averted. After the dismissal of Brockwell, leg before, at 212, the end came quickly; Mr Shuter was caught at extra slip at 212, and Richardson at cover-point, the innings closing at half-past 5 for 226.

Middlesex required only 32 runs to win, but this number cost them three batsmen – Mr Webbe, caught at slip, Mr Stoddart, caught at third man, and Mr Scott run out. The last-named's dismissal was brought about by a fine piece of fielding at mid-off by Richardson, who cleverly took the ball from a hard drive and threw the wicket down. Mr Foley made the winning hit at ten minutes past 6, and Middlesex won by seven wickets.

25 May: SUSSEX v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3943.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 May, page 5)

Mr G Brann's brilliant batting and the effective lob bowling of Walter Humphreys mainly contributed to the great advantage possessed by Sussex at the close of yesterday's play in this match at the Hove Ground, Brighton.

Somerset failed to grasp the opportunities afforded by first innings on a fast and true wicket, and were all out before the luncheon interval for 137. Humphreys's lobs were so successful that he took four wickets for 19 runs in his first seven overs, while his ultimate analysis was six for 154. Sussex were batting the rest of the day and made 346 for the loss of eight men.

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

On the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday, Somerset fought an uphill fight in gallant style; but the advantage secured by their rivals on the first innings was so substantial that even such a good score as 263 failed to bring any evenness to the match.

25 May: WARWICKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128148.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 May, page 5)

At the Edgbaston Ground, Birmingham, yesterday, Warwickshire were batting from 12.35 until 5 o'clock. The longest stand was that by Richards and Mr Bainbridge, who added 93; the latter's 57 extended over an hour and three-quarters. In the last hour of the day Shrewsbury and Gunn made 87 for Nottinghamshire, and were still not out at the call of "time."

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

Yesterday at the Edgbaston ground, Birmingham, the Nottinghamshire innings, which had been well started on the previous evening by Gunn and Shrewsbury, extended over the greater part of cricketing hours. Barnes, who carried off the chief batting honours, went in first wicket down and took out his bat for 130. Warwickshire fared badly in the last hour of the day.

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 May, page 10)

On Saturday, at the County Ground, Edgbaston, Birmingham, Warwickshire made a very good fight against their formidable opponents from Nottingham, and atoned in some way for the bad start in the second innings, in which four wickets had fallen overnight for 40 runs. Thus when the game was resumed 125 were necessary to avert a single innings defeat.

The early play furnished capital batting by Diver and Devey, who added 77 for the fifth partnership before the latter was taken at cover point. Diver for some time longer continued his excellent cricket, but eventually fell to a good catch in the long field; he was in an hour and three-quarters and hit eight fours, two threes and eight twos. Mr Bainbridge and Lilley made another fine stand, which realized 81 before the professional was well caught in the deep field. Mr Bainbridge was tenth to leave, taken at slip for a brilliant 78, in which were seven fours and ten twos.

Warwickshire made a very good score of 283, and Notts were left with 119 to get for victory in two hours. Shrewsbury and Gunn, after beginning carefully, increased the pace of scoring, and reached 65 before a catch at cover-point sent back Gunn, while the figures stood at 104 when Cresswell bowled Shrewsbury. Barnes and Wharmby quickly scored the other runs. Nottingham won by eight wickets.

25 May: LEICESTERSHIRE v YORKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/124/124177.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 26 May, page 5)

About 3,000 spectators were present at the opening of this match yesterday at Leicester . . .

Day 2 (scorecard but no report from Saturday 27 May, page 13)

Day 3 (report from Monday 29 May, page 10)

This match had gone so much against the home county that when Saturday was reached only four wickets were in [hand], while the arrears were still 203. Wainwright and Hirst quickly got out the remaining men, and Yorkshire were able to claim the victory by an innings and 185 runs. Hirst had a very good analysis, his five wickets averaging only a fraction over five runs each.

Saturday 27 May, page 13: M.C.C. AND GROUND v NORTHUMBERLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128823.html)

This match, which was begun at Lord's on Thursday, was concluded yesterday, when Marylebone Club and Ground was beaten by an innings and 12 runs. Northumberland made 210 in one innings, and Marylebone scored 112 in their first innings and 86 in their second.

For Northumberland, Mr Philipson scored 50 runs, Anderson 43, Mr R B Hoare 33 and Bartram 30. In Marylebone's first innings the principal scorers were – Burton 32 and Mr E Rodriguez and Pickett 23 each. In the Club's second innings the highest score was made by Geeson, who put together 27 runs.

29 May: MIDDLESEX v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3944.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 May, page 7)

The cricket day at Lord's yesterday was considerably shortened by the rainstorm which broke over the ground at a quarter past 4. Up to that time the Gloucestershire innings was in progress and the spectators had seen some fine batting by several of the visitors, especially by Dr W G Grace. He opened the innings with Mr Ferris, and runs were added steadily and, although Hearne and Rawlin, the early bowlers, were displaced by Mr Stoddart and Phillips, the 50 went up within the hour. When Hearne went on again, however, at 90, he got Mr Ferris caught at wicket for a capital 46; the partnership had produced 93 runs.

With the first two batsmen separated the game for a time turned in favour of Middlesex. Mr Radcliffe was caught at wicket, Painter was taken at slip and Mr Kitcat was run out, the fourth wicket falling at 109. Hearne should have also had Dr W G Grace out, but Mr Foley missed an easy catch at third man. Dr E M Grace's stay was brief but merry; he twice drove Hearne over the pavilion rails, and then at 129 was taken at extra mid-off. Captain Luard came next and did most of the scoring, and the sixth wicket had yielded 52 runs when play was stopped by rain.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 31 May, page 11)

With the wicket at Lord's yesterday affected by the rain of Monday, the bowlers met with a fair share of success; but the batting possessed several points of excellence, notably the fine innings of Mr A E Stoddart, to whom Middlesex were largely indebted for the smallness of the minority in which they found themselves at the end of an innings each. Dr W G Grace is so far credited with the highest score of the match; he made most of his runs on Monday, when the drawing of stumps left him with 82 not out, while the total was 181 for five wickets.

With a dozen runs added yesterday morning the partnership of Dr W G Grace and Captain Luard was ended by the bowling of the latter after he had obtained 39 of the 64 put on for the wicket. Hearne and Rawlin quickly dismissed the other Gloucestershire batsmen, and the innings, which lasted four and a half hours, closed for 222. Dr Grace, who was seventh out, bowled by Hearne at 203, just missed the three figures; he was batting about four hours and among his contributions were seven fours, three threes and 20 twos. The care with which Atfield, Gloucestershire's new professional, played was worthy of note; he took over an hour to make eight runs.

In 40 minutes before luncheon Middlesex scored 76 runs for the loss of Mr Webbe's wicket. Mr Stoddart batted with great brilliancy, his driving, leg-hitting and cutting powers being all well illustrated. After the interval Mr Scott was caught at extra mid-off; he had helped to add 87 for the second partnership. Mr Stoddart had made 74 out of 103, when a fine return by Captain Luard to Board lost him his wicket; he was in rather less than 70 minutes and his chief hits were 13 fours, a three and six twos.

In spite of some good cricket by Mr O'Brien the Middlesex eleven fared badly for a time, and the figures were only 15 when the ninth wicket fell. Hearne then assisted Phillips, and the former met with so much success that he secured 35, in which were six fours, of the 37 put on for the last wicket before being caught at mid-off. Murch had taken seven wickets, but 115 runs were scored

from him.

Gloucestershire, who were 20 ahead, went in again. After Dr W G Grace had been caught at slip, Messrs Ferris and Radcliffe played out time and the visitors were left in a favourable position.

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

The ease with which Gloucestershire won their match against Middlesex, at Lord's, yesterday afternoon, came as a surprise after the incidents of the early part of the day. Middlesex had been set 235 to make for victory, and it was a question whether these runs could be made in the three hours left for play; indeed, the idea of the Londoners losing was scarcely thought of. But Roberts and Murch bowled wonderfully well and Middlesex had a severe spell of ill-fortune, which Mr Henery endeavoured in vain to turn by some brilliant batting that relieved the monotony of the bowling triumphs in the last innings of the match.

The thoroughly good day's play was keenly watched by some 4,000 spectators. Overnight the western county stood in a rather favourable position, for, with only one man out in the second innings, they were 106 runs to the good. Messrs Ferris and Radcliffe, who had made a stand on Tuesday evening, renewed their batting at 20 minutes to 12, with Hearne and Rawlin bowling. The partnership had realized only 16 more runs when Mr Ferris was dismissed, and at 105 Mr Radcliffe skied the ball to mid-off. These two batsmen had put on 82 while they were together. Mr Radcliffe was in rather less than an hour and a half for 53, in which were one four, seven threes and four twos. Three for 105.

As Painter and Mr Kitcat scored steadily, the bowling underwent a change, and Phillips, who displaced Hearne at 132, met with immediate success. Indeed, in the course of a few overs he captured four wickets – Painter bowled, Dr E M Grace well caught in the long-field, and Captain Luard and Atfield caught at mid-on. So rapidly had these men been dismissed that seven were now out for 155, a remarkable change from the 100 for one wicket, which had been signalled soon after the resumption. Roberts, however, proved an able partner for Mr Kitcat and, although the bowling was varied, 36 were added in 50 minutes before luncheon. Subsequently 35 minutes sufficed to close the venture. Roberts, having helped to put on 48 runs in an hour and ten minutes, was well caught in the long-field, and then Hearne got Murch taken at mid-off, while he bowled Mr Kitcat. The last-named was in two and a half hours and hit six fours, four threes and five twos.

Middlesex, who wanted 235 to win, went in a second time at 3.35. Mr Stoddart had a narrow escape of being run out, and immediately afterwards he was badly hit by a ball from Roberts. After a little delay he was caught at extra mid-off. One for five. Only 12 runs were recorded when Mr Scott was taken at slip, and a well-judged catch at long-on sent back Mr Webbe. Mr O'Brien made some good hits, but at 34 he was secured low down at wicket, and thus the four great batsmen of the side were out. Roberts soon got two other wickets, Rawlin playing on and Mr Foley being bowled.

Six for 47 left Middlesex in an almost hopeless position. Phillips, however, batted with every care while Mr Henery, who had narrowly escaped in the long-field, threw plenty of brilliancy into the cricket and scored freely from both ends. Dr W G Grace, at 81, put Mr Ferris on, but Mr Henery, by driving him twice for four, sent his figures beyond the 50 after 40 minutes' play. The end, however, was near, for Dr W G Grace went on himself at 97, and in his second over bowled Phillips, who had made 13 out of the 56 added for the seventh wicket in 40 minutes. Murch, resuming, got out Mr Hornsby first ball, after which Dr Grace disposed of Hearne and West, and, at

half-past 5, Gloucestershire had won the match by 115 runs. Mr Henery took out his bat for a fine innings of 63 made in an hour; he hit seven fours, three threes and five twos.

The Gloucestershire eleven's victory was the result of good all-round cricket, and the spectators warmly applauded the side at the finish. Since Whit Monday they have lost to Sussex by three runs, and beaten both Kent and Middlesex. To-day they visit the Oval for the Surrey match.

29 May: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3945.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 May, page 7)

Somerset were batting the greater part of yesterday at Oxford and ran up what should prove a winning score. There were 12 players a-side. Mr L C H Palairet and Mr V T Hill were absent from the University team, and opportunities were thus afforded for the trying of some addition new men. For the county Mr R C N Palairet, the brother of the Oxford captain, appeared for the first time since 1891; he was unable to play last year because of an injury.

Going in first for Somerset, Messrs Fowler and Palairet made 53; but the latter's was not a good innings. The batting honours of the day were carried off by Mr H T Hewett, who obtained 94 in an hour and a half by that fine, free cricket for which he is so reputed. He went in fourth wicket down at 112, and was seventh to leave, caught at point, at 247. His runs comprised a six, 15 fours, two threes, six twos and ten singles. Mr Spurway helped him to add 58 in half an hour, and Mr Trask 76 in 50 minutes. Messrs Woods and Newton put on 43 for the ninth wicket, and the innings, which had begun at 12.10, did not end until shortly after 5 o'clock for 317.

Oxford went in for an hour in a bad light. Mr Leveson-Gower played well, but four wickets were lost in making only 34.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 31 May, page 11)

With two or three exceptions the University batting in this match at Oxford yesterday was disappointing, and few expected to see Oxford so easily beaten on a pretty good wicket. Going in overnight against the Somerset total of 317, they had lost four men for 34. In the course of an hour and a half yesterday the innings was completed for an addition of 103 runs. Mr Phillips played well, and Messrs Brain and Wilson hit hard towards the close, putting on 31 for the last wicket.

With arrears of 180, Oxford followed on. The best point in their early play was the fine form shown by Mr Leveson-Gower, who put together 42 out of the first 70 in an hour and ten minutes; he was fourth out, and his chief hits were three fours, a three and three twos. The score was only 86 at the fall of the seventh wicket, but the subsequent play of Messrs Clayton, Wood and Bathurst was so vigorous that the innings defeat was averted. Mr Wood ran up his 50 in 40 minutes, and his chief hits were a five, five fours and six twos. The second venture occupied three hours and produced 185. Tyler had bowled very well, and had an aggregate of 11 wickets for an average of rather less than 11 runs. Somerset won by ten wickets . . .

29 May: SURREY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3946.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 May, page 7)

In years when Surrey is enjoying so much prosperity, it is a little curious that fortune should have been sparing in its favours on the occasion of the Australian matches with the county. Surrey certainly beat the colonials twice in 1886, but in 1888 they lost twice and drew once, and in 1890 they were again beaten and a second game was drawn.

The 12,000 people who visited Kennington Oval yesterday showed the widespread interest that is felt in the Australian visit. The game rather fluctuated during the day. The batting of Messrs Graham and Gregory towards the close helped the Australians out of a very bad position into which they had fallen through the destructive bowling of Richardson and Lockwood. It was the last half-hour that produced the liveliest hitting of the day, for from the details of the play given below it will be gathered that a little steadiness by two or three of the Surrey eleven and some vigour by Brockwell alone enabled the county to make the good score of 181. The Australian fielding was very good, and the Mr Graham belonged the catch of the afternoon. Surrey included Abel in their side and Marshall kept wicket, while Mr C T B Turner reappeared for the Australians.

Mr Shuter beat Mr Blackham in the toss and Surrey went in first at five minutes past 12, Abel and Lockwood starting to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Giffen. The pitch was slow and seemed to help the attack. The start was not promising, for with only eight runs recorded Abel retired, caught at wicket; Lockwood, who had been nearly caught and bowled in the third over by Mr Giffen, was leg-before at 16, while, at 19, Hayward fell to an easy catch at slip.

These were the results of the first 25 minutes' cricket; but things assumed a little brightness during the partnership of the Reads. Both men made some fine hits on the leg side, but the cutting, though good, was rendered a little ineffective by the fine fielding of Mr Graham at third man. Mr W W Read seemed to give a sharp chance to Mr Trumble at short slip, and afterwards the figures crept steadily on to 50, a number which had been made at the rate of about one a minute. Then, at 61, in an over from Mr Turner in which Mr Read had made seven runs, Maurice Read was bowled, off stump, while at 65 Mr Walter Read was out to a wonderful catch in the deep field by Mr Graham, who, after running a long way, got under the ball, which he held, amid loud cheers.

Although neither of the Reads had made a big score, they had stemmed the early disasters, and their example was well followed by Mr Key and Henderson. The former played a good free game, and a couple of boundary hits by him from Mr Giffen were warmly cheered. After a spell of an hour and a half from the pavilion wicket, Mr Turner gave way to Mr M'Leod and crossed over to Mr Giffen's end. It was an effective change, for, after the completion of the 100, at 20 minutes to 2, Mr Key had his off stump sent down. Mr Shuter seemed in good form, but after luncheon he was bowled by a full-pitched ball on his leg stump. Henderson's well-played innings was completed at 150, when he fell to a catch at short slip. Brockwell, who hit freely, took out his bat for 33, the highest score of the side, while the last three wickets altogether had put on 47 runs in 35 minutes. It was 20 minutes to 4 when Surrey were all out for 181. Mr Giffen and Mr Turner divided the wickets, the former having rather the better average.

Rain was falling slightly when the Australians began their innings at 4 o'clock. Lockwood opened the bowling, and from the first ball he had a return chance from Mr Lyons, off the third there was

almost a run out, and from the fourth Mr Lyons was caught at short slip. The dismissal of this dangerous batsman before a run had been scored was received with loud applause from Surrey's friends, who had something else to please them when, at seven, a very fast ball, well up, from Richardson struck Mr Giffen's middle stump out of the ground. Mr Bruce, who followed, made four by a cut and four by a leg-hit, and then had his middle and off stumps bowled by a ball of Richardson's which broke across from leg. Three for 23 was not a much brighter beginning than Surrey's had been in the morning. Mr Turner joined Mr Trott, who had been playing steadily, but the score had not been increased when the drizzling rain gave way to a downpour, and the players returned to the pavilion.

When the game was resumed Richardson got Turner caught at third man without addition to the score, and after Mr Trott had made four by a fine off-drive he too fell to Richardson, taken at third man from a bumping ball. Five of the side were now out for 30 runs, while at 35 a slow ball from Lockwood took Mr Coningham's leg stump. At this stage, however, Messrs Graham and Gregory got together and their partnership was very fruitful. The ball came along the wet turf very easily and the batsmen certainly made the most of their opportunities. Fifty was reached at 6 o'clock and eight fours were recorded in the course of a quarter of an hour. Hayward displaced Lockwood at 77, but Mr Gregory made from him four and three by drives; indeed, the batsmen had put on 57 in half an hour, when the umpires drew stumps for the day, owing to the renewal of the rain . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 31 May, page 11)

For the third time in the annals of Surrey cricket has the county beaten the Australians. The closing stages of the match, finished at the Oval yesterday, were played out on a wicket that, while very bad at the start, was quite ruined by the rain of Monday afternoon; and all day the bowlers had matters considerably their own way. Richardson was almost unplayable on the treacherous turf, and the way in which he got out Messrs Giffen and Turner, and his full pitch when sent back Mr Lyons, furnished some of the most striking incidents of the afternoon.

When the match was almost lost, Messrs Graham and M'Leod made a gallant effort to turn the game; but theirs was the only defence that troubled the Surrey men in the second innings. From beginning to end it was a bowler's match, as may be inferred by the low average of 13 for the 40 wickets which fell. About 8,000 spectators were present to see the finish.

The Australians, who wanted ten runs to avert the follow-on and had four wickets in hand, renewed their batting at 11.35. Messrs Graham and Gregory, who had put on 57 in the last half-hour of Monday, were soon separated. Indeed, the overnight total of 92 was unaltered when Lockwood with his third ball got Mr Graham caught by the wicket-keeper standing back. Mr M'Leod quickly fell to slip, but Mr Gregory continued his excellent batting, although narrowly escaping from a return which he offered to Richardson. Messrs Trumble and Blackham rendered Mr Gregory great assistance, and the last two wickets in three-quarters of an hour produced 59 runs. Mr Trumble was taken at mid-off and Mr Blackham at point, while Mr Gregory remained not out with 66. These runs were the result of an hour and a half's play, and the chief hits were ten fours, six threes and two twos. The score of 151 was remarkably good considering that the first six wickets fell for 35 runs. Richardson's analysis came out well, although after his first four wickets had cost only ten runs, 47 were hit from him.

At five minutes to 1 Surrey, who held a lead of 25, began their second innings to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Giffen. The start was bad, for only five runs were scored when Lockwood

called Abel for a short run and the latter lost his wicket; this was a piece of ill-fortune for Abel, who had thus failed in each innings. Lockwood quickly fell to Mr Turner's bowling, and with two men lost for only seven runs Surrey's prospects seemed anything but bright.

Matters improved, however, during the partnership of Mr Read and Hayward. Each batsman made some good drives; but with Mr Trumble on in place of Mr Giffen at 31, Mr Read gave a hard chance to Mr Coningham at mid-off. The figures reached 50 at a quarter to 2, and then at 53 a clever piece of stumping sent back Hayward. The stand had realized 46 runs. Mr Walter Read left soon afterwards, as Mr Bruce, going on in lieu of Mr Turner, bowled his leg stump out of the ground in the second over. Henderson arrived and obtained eight by two drives, and although Mr Turner resumed no further wicket fell before the interval, when the record stood at 67 for four.

After the interval Maurice Read, who had been nearly caught and bowled by Mr Trumble, sent that bowler to leg for four and two; but at 84 Mr Trumble, with successive balls, dismissed Henderson and Mr Key, the middle stump in each instance being struck. Six for 84. Maurice Read, with his figures at 16, was badly missed at mid-off by Mr Giffen off Mr Bruce. Subsequently Read, with a cut for four, sent the figures up to 99, while the 100 was completed with a wide from Mr Bruce. The end was now near. Mr Shuter, after being repeatedly beaten by balls from Mr Trumble, was at last bowled; while, with Mr Turner on again for Mr Bruce, Maurice Read was well stumped. Brockwell fell to extra mid-off and Richardson was bowled, and by 3.25 Surrey were all out for 113. Mr Trumble had a fine bowling analysis of five for 40.

The Australians' innings was disastrous from the start. The number wanted to win was 139; but the early play gave some idea of the small probability of these runs being scored on the treacherous wicket. Messrs Lyons and Trott went in first, and the bowlers were Lockwood and Richardson. In the latter's first over Mr Lyons was bowled by a full-pitched ball on the off stump. Only 11 runs were recorded when Mr Trott was caught by the wicket-keeper standing back; while Mr Giffen was bowled and Mr Gregory well caught at third man at 15. Four down. Mr Bruce, after being nearly caught at slip, was stumped off Lockwood; Marshall, who was standing back, pitched the ball on the wicket. Five for 22. Mr Coningham cut the ball into the hands of point, and at 29 Mr Turner's leg stump was bowled down. Seven for 29.

The game seemed virtually over, but Messrs Graham and M'Leod, by their courageous batting, infused fresh life into the cricket. They showed great steadiness and made many good hits. The score reached 50 and, as the batsmen played with great determination, Mr Shuter changed his bowling at both ends, Hayward and Brockwell going on. The latter was effective in the second over, when Mr Graham was caught at cover-point. In 35 minutes 47 runs had been added, and Mr Graham had once again made a very useful score. Eight for 76. Mr Trumble was quickly bowled off his body by Richardson, who had relieved Hayward, and Mr Blackham also succumbed to Richardson. The match was over at 5.25, and Surrey had won by 58 runs. Richardson, who had taken 11 wickets in the match for 95 runs, was warmly applauded by the large body of spectators who assembled at the finish in front of the pavilion.

29 May: YORKSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3947.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 May, page 7)

This match should have begun yesterday on the Headingley Ground, Leeds, but owing to heavy rain the start was deferred until to-day. The sides are as follows . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 31 May, page 11)

Yesterday proved a bowler's day at the Headingley ground, Leeds, and some progress was made in this match, in which play was impracticable on Monday because of the rain.

Sussex won the toss, and before the wicket grew difficult Bean and Mr Wilson made good use of their opportunities. These batsmen scored 41 in half an hour, and afterwards Bean and Mr Murdoch added 46 for the second partnership. Then a great change was produced by Peel and Wainwright, more especially by the former, and the last eight Sussex wickets were captured before luncheon for an addition of 38 runs. Bean was third to leave for a vigorous 58; he gave no chance during his hour and a half's stay, and made seven fours, three threes and six twos. Peel, whose full analysis was seven for 55, when he went on the second time got six men out for 27.

Yorkshire fared badly; six wickets fell for 35 and the ninth went at 61, but then came a fine stand by Hirst and Hunter, who put on 50, so that Sussex could only claim a lead of 14. Hilton, a slow left-hand bowler, had the remarkable figures of seven wickets for 47 runs. The visitors went in a second time . . .

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

Yesterday, at Headingley, Leeds, was a good day for bowlers, and after a very small scoring match Yorkshire managed to win. Sussex, perhaps, held an advantage overnight, when, going in a second time with a lead of 14, they had made 30 for the loss of one man.

With a hot sun on the soft wicket yesterday morning the prospect of good scores was not particularly bright, and expectations were more than realized. Wainwright and Peel were almost unplayable, and in the course of an hour they got out the nine remaining Sussex batsmen for 31 runs. Wainwright, who had dismissed Bean on Tuesday night, took five more wickets for seven runs and had the remarkable analysis of six for 16. Peel's aggregate for the two days was 11 for 95.

Yorkshire wanted 76 to win, and these were made at the cost of six men. Yorkshire won after a keen fight by four wickets. It may be noted that the average for the 36 wickets which fell in the match was only ten runs.

29 May: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY – THE ELEVEN v NEXT SIXTEEN

(Potted scores) NEXT SIXTEEN 142 (J A Healing 41, R H Foy 20; J Burrough 6/24) and 211 (J D Brunton 68, J A Healing 21, G S Wilson 28, E T Baines 26*; J Burrough 5 wkts, C M Wells 4 wkts). THE ELEVEN 241 (P H Latham 34, T N Perkins 54, E Field 20, C G Pope 37*) and 114/3 (C M Well 20, C G Pope 26, A O Jones 24*). The Eleven won by seven wickets.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 30 May, page 7)

Bad weather prevented much progress from being made in this annual match at Cambridge yesterday, when the Sixteen went in first on a soft wicket. A start took place at 12.20, and the Sixteen lost five men for 22. Rain stopped the game at ten minutes past 1, and there was no further cricket until a quarter to 4. Eventually stumps were drawn . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 31 May, page 11)

Good progress was made with this match at Cambridge yesterday. The Sixteen, who had lost seven wickets overnight for 63, completed their innings in an hour and a quarter. Mr Healing's 41 was the best feature in the batting, while for the Eleven Mr Burrough bowled with considered effect, his six wickets costing only 24 runs.

When the Eleven went in three men were lost for 43. Mr Latham, however, batted steadily and stayed until 108, when he was sixth out. Subsequently Messrs Perkins and Field met with much success, adding 56 while they were together. The former's 54 included six fours.

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

The annual trial match between the Eleven and the Next Sixteen was concluded yesterday at Cambridge. In consequence of a severe blow received on the arm Mr F S Jackson, the Cambridge captain, took no part in yesterday's cricket. Eventually the Eleven won by seven wickets.

1 June: LANCASHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3948.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 June, page 11)

In this match, which was begun at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, Sussex were kept in the field nearly the whole day by Lancashire, who scored very heavily. Frank Sugg, going in first wicket down at seven, carried his bat for 169, while the Lancashire total was 346.

The fielding of Sussex was poor and various catches were dropped during the day. Sugg gave four chances, one at 38 and then at 51, a third at 81 and a fourth at 132. He was in altogether about four hours and a half, and he made 23 fours, six threes and 16 twos. Maclaren played steadily at the start, but Sugg's most valuable partners were Briggs, who helped to add 101 in rather more than an hour for the fourth wicket, and Tinsley, who stayed three-quarters of an hour, during which 65 were put on. Briggs, who was twice let off, made 22 hits – viz., ten fours, two threes, four twos and six singles.

Sussex went in for 40 minutes . . .

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

Some really wonderful cricket was witnessed in this match at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, and better days seem to have come for Sussex.

Day 3 (report from Monday 5 June, page 7)

After a match rendered remarkable by the great batting displays of Sussex on the second day, the rain late on Saturday afternoon spoils the prospect of any definite issue being reached. There were about 5,000 people present at Old Trafford, Manchester, when the game concluded.

Lancashire, who overnight had begun their second innings with arrears of 100, went on batting at 20 minutes to 12. Ward and Mr M'Laren, the not outs, obtained 86 for the first wicket in an hour and a quarter, and then the amateur was bowled for 44, in which were six fours and five twos. After the arrears had been rubbed off Sugg was quickly caught in the slips, and Ward was the third to leave at 151 for a capital 77, his chief hits being eight fours, six threes and five twos. Smith played steadily, but Briggs threw plenty of vigour into the cricket, making 40 in three-quarters of an hour, out of 45 put on for the fourth wicket.

Although only three men had been lost at luncheon time for 182, the whole side was eventually out for 236. The rapid dismissal of the last three batsmen was largely brought about by the effective lob bowling of Humphreys. It was 4 o'clock when the innings ended for 236. Sussex were left with 137 to make for victory, and two and a quarter hours to play. As they were about to go in the rain came on and continued to fall heavily, so at a quarter past 5 the match was abandoned as a drawn. Over 1,000 runs were made in the three days.

1 June: MIDDLESEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3949.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 June, page 11)

There was a large company present at Lord's yesterday to witness this match. Middlesex since their defeat by Gloucestershire had strengthened their team by the inclusion of Mr M'Gregor and Mr Ford, who scored West and Mr Hornsby. Lord Hawke was absent from the Yorkshire eleven, in which the only change was that Mr Ernest Smith filled Mounsey's place.

Middlesex, who went in first on a good pitch, lost Mr Stoddart at two, and then with Mr Smith bowling they fared very badly. Mr Webbe was out at 41, and Messrs Foley, O'Brien and Henery quickly followed. Five for 59. So far Mr Smith had sent down six overs (two maidens), 18 runs, four wickets. Rawlin then joined Mr Smith. In less than an hour 71 were added, and then Rawlin, who had made eight fours, was run out. Six for 130. The four other wickets averaged less than ten runs each, and the innings closed for 169 at 3.35. Mr Scott was ninth out, bowled by Peel, at 168; in his faultless 59, obtained in two hours and a half, were five fours, five threes and six twos.

Yorkshire began badly, for Wardall was run out in the first over before a single run had been scored. Tunnicliffe stayed with Mr Sellers until 39, after which the latter with Brown put on 73 in an hour before Brown was caught by the wicket-keeper. Peel next helped to add 47, and at the finish Yorkshire, with six men in hand, were only ten runs behind. Mr Sellers played splendidly; at the drawing of stumps he had made 90.

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

There was some brilliant cricket at Lord's yesterday, when, after Yorkshire had secured a long lead on the first innings, Middlesex played a good uphill game, in which the batting of Mr Stoddart, Mr Scott and Mr Foley stood out prominently. The previous day's play had left Yorkshire, with six wickets to fall, only ten runs behind the home total.

Mr Sellers, who was 90 not out on the previous night, quickly ran into three figures, but, at 179, a ball from Hearne clean bowled him. His 105 had lasted three hours and were made without a mistake; his chief hits were 15 fours, five threes and eight twos. Eight men were out for 206, but the last two wickets offered a spirited resistance. In the course of 40 minutes Ulyett and Moorhouse added 66 runs, and then Ulyett's capital innings was ended by an easy catch at slip. He had shown much of his old power of hitting, and he made seven fours, four threes and four twos. Moorhouse continued to play steadily and received considerable assistance from Hunter, who was last out at 306.

When Middlesex went in to get 135 to avoid an innings defeat they lost their captain, caught at slip, at 27. Mr Stoddart and Mr Scott stayed together a long while, the former playing with great brilliancy. From both ends he scored with equal freedom, making 51 of the first 66 runs in 50 minutes, and contributing 81 out of the first 100. At 114, in trying to get a short ball from Hirst round to leg, he was bowled. His innings of 88, scored in an hour and a half, included 14 fours, two threes and seven twos. With Mr O'Brien in Mr Scott hit freely; but the former was caught at extra-slip at 143, and after Mr Foley and Mr Scott had made a stand of 42, the latter was bowled by Peel. His 62 brought his aggregate for the match to 121. On both days he had played fine cricket, driving

with great vigour. Among his hits were seven fours, four threes and three twos.

Mr Foley scored his runs in fine forward style, but he gave a couple of chances to Wainwright at extra-slip. In spite of the 47 runs put on by Phillips and Mr Foley, the cheap dismissal of Rawlin, Mr Ford and Mr M'Gregor left Yorkshire with the best of the game at the finish, when Middlesex were 124 ahead with a wicket to fall. The day was fine and about 6,000 people watched the play.

Day 3 (report from Monday 5 June, page 7)

For some years past the match at Lord's between Middlesex and Yorkshire has been marked by the great excellence of its cricket, and the latest game has, if anything, enhanced this characteristic. Middlesex made a splendid uphill fight, and on Saturday on more than one occasion their prospect of success was bright, but finally Yorkshire managed to win.

Friday night had left the position of affairs favourable to the North Countrymen, for Middlesex had one wicket to fall in their second innings and were only 124 runs ahead. On Saturday morning, however, Hearne stayed with Mr Foley and helped to put on another 20 runs, so that Yorkshire were left with 145 to make for victory. In spite of a couple of mistakes on the previous afternoon, Mr Foley's not-out innings of 60 was the result of capital batting, extending over two and a quarter hours and including seven fours, a three and four twos.

Yorkshire began their task of making 145 at 12.20, sending in Mr Sellers and Wardall, but the start was not promising for the batting side, as only a single had been made when Mr Sellers gave Mr Webbe an easy catch at extra mid-off. Wardall and Tunnicliffe were next partners; but the bowling of Hearne and Rawlin was wonderfully true, and although Wardall stayed some time he had only scored five when a fine ball from Hearne broke in and clean bowled him. Rawlin next sent Mr Smith's off stump down, and with three men lost for 23 runs the friends of Middlesex became very hopeful.

Brown and Tunnicliffe batted steadily, and an occasional four was all that relieved the quiet scoring. Rawlin kept a fine length and the batsmen seemed quite unable to hit him, while neither seemed to appreciate Hearne, who sometimes beat them without striking the wicket. Tunnicliffe, when he had scored 14, gave a very hard chance to Phillips at mid-on, and Brown, through trying to hit the good bowling, made some false strokes. After a while the pace of run-getting increased, and Mr Stoddart was put on in place of Hearne. Having made 23 Tunnicliffe should have been caught by Mr Foley in the long field off Rawlin, who, at 66, handed the ball to Phillips, in whose first over this batsman was caught at wicket. Forty-three had been made in three-quarters of an hour.

With Peel in, Mr Webbe quickly put on Hearne and Rawlin again, but the figures steadily rose and after luncheon the 100 was soon reached. Then the game suddenly turned in favour of Middlesex, as in one over Hearne bowled out Peel and got Wainwright cleverly caught at extra slip, while in the following over he bowled Brown. Seven wickets were now lost for 104, and Yorkshire still wanted 41 to win. These conditions caused a great deal of excitement among the spectators and every ball was closely watched. Ulyett and Moorhouse were the batsmen and showed great steadiness. When within 18 of victory Ulyett, who had made ten, cut a ball hard to Mr O'Brien at point, but the latter failed to hold it. No other opportunity was offered and at 3.45 Moorhouse with a drive for four won Yorkshire the match by three wickets. It was a splendid contest throughout and the large company were very enthusiastic. Yorkshire played remarkably fine cricket.

1 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3950.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 June, page 11)

Yesterday, at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, the play in the match between Notts and Somerset proved pretty even. Somerset were without two or three of their best amateurs, notably Messrs L C H Palairat, V T Hill and J B Challen.

The home side won the toss and went in. Shrewsbury was bowled at six, but Gunn and Barnes in the course of three-quarters of an hour put on 57 runs. The fourth partnership (that of Mr Dixon and Flowers) proved even more profitable: it lasted an hour and five minutes and realized 89 runs. Flowers showed very good form and in his 57 were four fours, four threes and 12 twos. The last six men made an average of some seven runs each, and the innings, which occupied three hours, closed for 202.

Mr Hewett started well for Somerset and made 30. Mr Poynton was seen to considerable advantage, while Mr Spurway and Nichols put on 48 in the last hour. Somerset, with half their wickets to fall, are 79 runs behind.

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

After the evenness of Thursday at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, this game turned strongly in favour of Notts yesterday. Somerset, with six wickets to fall, wanted 269 runs to win.

Day 3 (report from Monday 5 June, page 7)

What is known to cricketers as the "hat trick" is by no means of frequent occurrence in important play, and rarer still are instances of four wickets falling to one man from successive balls. However, this feat was achieved by Shacklock, the Nottinghamshire fast bowler, who with the second, third, fourth and fifth balls of an over, bowled Mr Spurway, caused Mr Newton to play on, and bowled Messrs Trask and Gibbs. This occurred early on Saturday morning, at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, when Somerset, who had made 52 overnight for four wickets, had advanced their figures to 75.

Somerset were, of course, in a hopeless position, and although Nichols batted steadily the outstanding wickets were captured for 20, and Notts finally won the match by 225 runs. Shacklock's bowling figures on Saturday morning were 14 overs and three balls (six maidens), 22 runs, six wickets; and his full analysis was eight for 46.

1 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3951.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 June, page 11)

About 4,000 people were present on the Christ Church Ground at Oxford yesterday to see the opening day's cricket in this match. Winning the toss, the Australians, who were without Messrs Bannerman, Blackham and Coningham, began batting, and Messrs Wood, the lob-bowler, and Bathurst were the bowlers whom they had first to face.

Mr Lyons, who went in with Mr Trott, twice drove the lob-bowler out of the ground, and very soon Mr Wilson was put on. The wicket, however, came from the other end, Mr Lyons being caught at extra slip. Mr Trott fell to the wicket-keeper at 36, after which Messrs Bruce and G Giffen raised the score to 76. It was at this stage that Mr Arkwright was tried with almost immediate success, for his second ball bowled Mr Bruce, and at 97 he also sent back Mr George Giffen. Then followed a stand by Messrs Graham and Gregory, who in the course of 35 minutes put on 84 runs. The attack underwent several changes; but, when Messrs Arkwright and Bathurst were again tried, the character of the game was greatly altered.

Mr Gregory was the fifth to leave, caught at cover-point, at 181, and then the other five wickets fell for 19 runs. Mr Graham, when went in when three men were out for 76, was seven to leave at 195, a yorker from Mr Arkwright on the leg stump dismissing him. He ran up his 64 in an hour and ten minutes, and his chief hits were ten fours, a three and five twos. It was 3.25 when the colonial innings finished for 200. Messrs Arkwright and Bathurst each claimed five wickets at comparatively small cost. M Arkwright bowls fast right hand and Mr Bathurst medium pace left hand. It was certainly a great feat for these two bowlers to get out the Australians.

Oxford began badly against Messrs G Giffen and Turner, losing their captain and Mr Mordaunt, both of whom were caught at slip, for seven runs. Messrs Fry and Leveson-Gower, however, gave the visitors great trouble, and in spite of bowling changes they added 67 runs in 70 minutes. Mr Fry was then caught at point, but Mr Leveson-Gower stayed until 128, when he was taken at cover-point for 59.

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

The match between the Australians and Oxford University continues to be most keenly fought. Thursday evening had left the score at an even stage, Oxford, with four wickets in hand, being 72 behind.

Mr George Giffen and Mr M'Leod were the bowlers. Each of them quickly secured a batsman, and with eight men out for 143 the Dark Blues seemed likely to finish considerably in arrear. But Messrs Bathurst and Arkwright, who had carried off the honours of the attack on Thursday, rescued their side from an indifferent position. While Mr Bathurst adopted fairly steady tactics, Mr Arkwright threw much vigour into his play, and the Australian bowling was varied in vain for three-quarters of an hour. In this time 62 runs had been obtained. Mr Arkwright then gave Mr Turner a return catch, and so the partnership was severed, but not before the Australian total had been passed. Mr Wilson offered little trouble, and the innings ended at ten minutes to 1 for 208. Mr Bathurst was warmly cheered for his 33 not out.

Forty-four runs in a quarter of an hour was a start by Messrs Lyons and Trott that made things look a little ominous for the Oxford men. But the game underwent a change before the luncheon interval. When 62 had been made in half an hour Mr Lyons was smartly stumped off the lob bowler, and then Mr Wilson dismissed Mr Trott, and later on got out Mr George Giffen with a “bailer.” After luncheon Oxford’s fielding and bowling were wonderfully good and, at first rapidly and next steadily, were the Australians got out. Catches at extra slip, short slip and point dismissed Mr Graham, Mr Gregory and Mr Bruce, and six wickets were down for 123. The left-hand catch high up at slip [Note: by Hill] which caused Mr Gregory’s retirement was particularly skilful. A “yorker” was too much for Mr Turner, and Mr Walter Giffen was bowled by a lob. Mr M’Leod strove to put a better appearance on Australian affairs, and met with some success. The innings closed at 4.25 for 182.

Messrs Palairt and Mordaunt began well Oxford’s task of getting 175 for victory, and the score travelled rapidly to 42. Then the Oxford captain was splendidly caught at long-on and Mr Mordaunt fell to the wicketkeeper, while at 58 Mr Leveson-Gower was “leg-before.” Mr Phillips stayed a little time, but left at 72, after which Messrs Bathurst and Fry played out time, Oxford at the finish wanting 99 to win with six wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Monday 5 June, page 7)

From beginning to end the Australian match with the Oxford team furnished a wonderfully keen fight, as, even after a spell of ill-fortune to begin with on Saturday morning, the Dark Blues made a bold attempt to win and were beaten by only 19 runs. Friday night found the home eleven with six wickets in hand and 99 runs to obtain. The morning was bright and a large company assembled to see the finish on the Christ Church Ground.

Messrs Fry and Bathurst, the not-outs, went on with the batting at ten minutes past 12, Mr George Giffen and Mr Turner being the bowlers. Only six runs had been added when a skilful catch at short-leg by Mr Graham sent back Mr Fry, and three more batsmen fell in the course of a few overs – Mr Bathurst stumped, Mr Hill caught and bowled, and Mr Wood bowled.

Messrs Brain and Arkwright became partners when the game seemed lost, for eight wickets were down and 78 runs still wanted; but their vigorous cricket brought back to the game all its former interest. Mr Arkwright did most of the run-getting, while his companion, playing more steadily, did not lose many opportunities of scoring. Mr Arkwright made 12 in one over from Mr Giffen (two drives and two leg-hits). Mr Giffen delayed changing the bowling until 140, and then he put on Mr M’Leod at Mr Turner’s end. This alteration was quickly effective, and Mr Arkwright fell to a catch at slip. Forty-three runs had been added in 35 minutes. When the last man, Mr Wilson, came in, 35 runs were still wanted. Fifteen of this number had been obtained and then Mr Wilson was caught deep at square-leg, and the match ended in a victory for the Australians by 19 runs.

It is curious to note the important part played in the game by Messrs Arkwright and Bathurst, the two Oxford men who were put in the team on the morning of the match. Mr Arkwright scored 68 and secured six wickets for 59 runs; and Mr Bathurst made 42 runs for being once out and captured seven wickets for 76 runs.

1 June: SURREY v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3952.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 June, page 11)

The match between Surrey and Gloucestershire at the Oval yesterday was thoroughly enjoyment by the spectators. Gloucestershire had first innings on a slow wicket, and from the outset they appeared to have a disastrous time before them. Dr W G Grace alone played good cricket; his companions offered only a feeble resistance to the Surrey attack. Yet Dr W G Grace played the bowling with easy precision and made many beautiful strokes.

Mr Ferris scored ten before Lockwood dismissed him, and Mr Radcliffe rapidly ran up 17, of which he obtained 15 in one of Lockwood's overs. Richardson, however, after sending back Mr Radcliffe, performed the "hat trick" by bowling with successive balls Painter, Mr Kitcat and Dr E M Grace. While the procession of the visitors' batsmen to and from the wickets continued, Dr W G Grace during the brief innings of his men made many fine cuts and drives, and, when the venture ended at ten minutes to 2, he remained unconquered with a faultless 61, having taken his bat right through the innings. Among his hits were seven fours, five threes and two twos. After Richardson had captured four wickets for 18 runs, his fifth cost 26.

Surrey did not go in until just before three o'clock. For a long time they met with the same ill-fortune that had befallen the Gloucestershire batsmen. Henderson made a few hard hits before being out to a fine return catch; but, in spite of the steadiness of Maurice Read, the innings rather rapidly approached the end. Mr Walter Read and Baldwin were both caught by Dr W G Grace at extra mid-off, and Mr Key was out to a brilliant catch at point by Dr E M Grace. Maurice Read left at 75, and Lockwood and Marshall were both taken at slip off Murch without addition. Indeed, in two hours Surrey saw nine of their men lost for 75.

Everyone was unprepared for the fine stand which followed. From the moment he came in Richardson began to throw great vigour into his play, and the 100 went up at five minutes to 5, while a little later the Gloucestershire score was passed. Having contributed 22, Richardson should have been easily caught from a skier at point, but Dr E M Grace left the catch to Captain Luard, who was running in from cover-point, with the result that the chance was lost. This was a terrible mistake for the visitors. Richardson batted with more vigour than before and, although the bowling was changed several times, the last wicket had realized 105 in an hour and ten minutes, when Richardson was at length taken at slip, the fourth catch in that position made by Painter off Murch during the afternoon. Richardson hit eight fours, two threes and ten twos. Murch achieved a fine bowling feat in securing eight wickets for 74 runs.

Gloucestershire, who were 75 behind, fared badly in the last hour and lost Dr W G Grace, caught from a ball which bumped up and went from the bat to third man, and three other batsmen.

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

Although Gloucestershire were in such a very bad position on Thursday night at the Oval, it was generally expected that they would make something of a fight as, with six wickets in hand, they were only 16 runs behind. But yesterday morning any hopes of a stout uphill game were speedily lost, and in the end Surrey won the match by seven wickets.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/124/124178.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 2 June, page 11)

On a good wicket at the Lyttelton ground, Leyton, yesterday, over 400 runs were scored. Essex were batting the greater part of the day, and their innings was characterized by the fine play of Mr Lucas, Mead, Carpenter and Pickett.

Day 2 (no report or scorecard from Saturday 3 June, page 15)

Day 3 (no report or scorecard from Monday 5 June, page 7)

The following are the results up to the present of the matches between the leading counties: -

	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	3	0	0	3
Nottinghamshire	2	1	0	1
Surrey	2	1	0	1
Middlesex	2	2	0	-
Sussex	2	2	1	-
Kent	1	1	0	-
Gloucestershire	2	3	0	-1
Lancashire	0	1	1	-1
Somerset	0	3	0	-3

The points are secured by subtracting losses from wins and ignoring drawn matches.

5 June: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3953.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 June, page 11)

A large company assembled on the University ground to see the opening day's play in this match. Surrey went in first and got the worst of the wicket after the rain in the morning, which, after their dismissal, rapidly improved. Mr Wells and Mr Jackson dismissed five of the Surrey men in three-quarters of an hour for 28 runs. Mr Walter Read and Baldwin then got together and were not separated until they had, in an hour and three-quarters, put on 128. Mr Read's innings lasted two hours and a quarter, and in his 83 were 13 fours, two threes and five twos.

After Surrey had been put out for 182 there remained about two hours and a quarter for Cambridge to play. In this time Mr Jackson, the Cambridge captain, made a brilliant not out innings of 99. Mr Ranjitsinhji stayed while 81 were made in an hour for the second wicket, and Mr Gay while 46 were put on in 30 minutes for the third. From the figures subjoined it will be seen that Cambridge are already four runs ahead, with seven wickets in hand.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 June, page 11)

At the University Ground, Cambridge, yesterday, the interest in the match between Surrey and the home eleven was sustained until the close of the day. Messrs Jackson and Hill, the not outs, batted well at the beginning of yesterday's play, but at 237 the Cambridge captain was dismissed. His innings of 123 lasted three hours. This is Mr Jackson's second hundred for the University during the present season. The last six Cambridge wickets produced only 22 runs, so the University's score was 259.

Surrey, who were 77 behind, started badly. In the next two and a quarter hours, however, Mr Walter Read and Henderson added 143. Then Mr Jackson bowled successfully and got out Henderson, Maurice Read, Mr W W Read and Mr Shuter, while, in spite of some good play by Mr Key, eight wickets were down for 244. Mr Walter Read was out sixth, at 177, having scored 86. Henderson also played well, although giving a chance at 21 to slip. At present Surrey are 167 ahead, with two wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 June, page 11)

The Cambridge University team sustained their first defeat of the season from Surrey, who yesterday, at the end of the fourth innings, possessed the substantial majority of 102 runs. After fortune had favoured the Light Blues on Monday it steadily turned to the other side, and Lockwood's effective bowling brought about their final discomfiture.

Overnight there had been a prospect of a good finish, as Surrey were 167 runs on with only two wickets in hand. Mr Key and Richardson, however, met with further success in the county batting, and Cambridge were left with 198 to make for victory. Mr Key's 47 included six fours, three threes and two twos.

Messrs Jackson and Douglas started well and obtained 45 in half an hour for the first wicket; but

then the batting broke down and six players were out for 65. Messrs Wells and Tollemache put on 23, and then Lockwood performed the “hat trick,” by dismissing Messrs Tollemache, Stogdon and Pope with successive balls. The innings was completed for 95, and Surrey won by 102 runs. Lockwood had a remarkable analysis – viz., eight wickets for 33 runs. It should not be forgotten that Cambridge were handicapped by the absence of Messrs Latham, Burrough and Jones.

5 June: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3954.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 June, page 11)

This return match should have been started yesterday on the Gloucestershire County Ground, at Bristol, but heavy rain caused its postponement until this morning. The teams are as follows . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 June, page 11)

There was no play in this match on Monday owing to rain, but the wicket at the Ashley Down Ground, Bristol, though slow, was less affected yesterday than might have been anticipated.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 June, page 11)

A match is reduced to curious conditions when each side on the last day closes an innings in the hope of winning. These were, however, occurrences at Bristol yesterday in the keenness of the contest between Gloucestershire and Kent. The latter in the morning decided not to proceed further with their first innings, and Gloucestershire, who were 45 behind, entered upon their second spell of batting.

With an improved wicket they played much better cricket than on the opening day. Indeed, the innings had lasted four hours and a half and the nine wickets which had fallen had averaged 27 runs each when they, too, applied the "closure." Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe played excellently, and in an hour and a quarter put on 89 runs for the second partnership. Of this number Mr Radcliffe contributed 64 by six fours, four threes, nine twos and singles; but he was missed in the deep-field when credited with only 14. Dr W G Grace's batting lacked much of its customary freedom, and he took two hours to make 46, being fourth out at 134; he hit two fours, four threes and seven twos.

After luncheon the sixth Gloucestershire wicket fell for 149, but any prospect of the Kent success disappeared by the subsequent free game of Atfield, who made 45 out of 60 in 50 minutes. Kent went in again for an hour and ten minutes, and the game was drawn . . .

5 June: MIDDLESEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3955.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 June, page 11)

Mr A E Stoddart played a wonderful innings of 195 against Nottinghamshire at Lord's yesterday, and the six or seven thousand spectators followed his brilliant batting with an enthusiastic interest. This is Mr Stoddart's best score on the ground, his previous record having been the 151 made for England against the M.C.C. in the match played to celebrate the centenary of the club six years ago; but at Manchester a couple of seasons since he carried out his bat after making 215 for Middlesex against Lancashire. While the other good points of the cricket were almost dwarfed by the play of Mr Stoddart, the day's game was made remarkable by the early failures of many of the others and the subsequent big totals reached.

Middlesex, winning the toss, possessed the advantage of first innings on a fast wicket. Messrs Webbe and Stoddart began, and runs came so rapidly from Shacklock and Mee that 50 went up in 20 minutes. Mr Webbe then played on, and Mr Scott, who stayed until 76, was second out, caught at third man. The Middlesex wickets continued to fall to the fast bowling of Mee; he sent back Mr Foley at 78, and at 98 he cleverly caught Mr Henery from a hard return, the ball being held at the second attempt. Mr O'Brien played on at 101, and thus far Mee had secured all five wickets in 13 overs for 41 runs.

Meantime Mr Stoddart had been playing with great freedom; he had scored 50 in an hour, but in spite of his fine play the Middlesex prospects rapidly darkened, and when Phillips was sixth out at 115 the position was extremely bad. Mr Ford now joined Mr Stoddart, and the run-getting suddenly increased to a great pace, and just before luncheon Mr Stoddart, who had made many fine drives, reached his three figures, having been in an hour and fifty minutes. At the adjournment the record was 160, of which number Mr Stoddart had made 101.

After the interval both men started scoring at a rapid rate. It was in vain that Mr Dixon varied his bowling. Mr Stoddart scored 13 in an over from Mee, and when Flowers was tried he sent a ball from that bowler on to the pavilion seats. Thirty-four runs in 12 minutes, and 46 in 17 minutes, quickly sent the figures up to the second hundred, and when the partnership had lasted only three-quarters of an hour its product was 101. Eventually at 227 Mr Ford, playing forward to Attewell, was clean bowled. In rather less than an hour the wicket had put on 112 runs.

This improvement in the affairs of Middlesex continued after the dismissal of Mr Mordaunt, Zimbabwe's at 242, for Mr M'Gregor scored rapidly. Mr Stoddart was credited with 150 out of 248; and in spite of many bowling changes he beat Bean's season's record (186) at a quarter past four, a fact that was not overlooked by the crowd. Having helped to contribute 79 for the ninth wicket in three-quarters of an hour, Mr M'Gregor was taken at slip. Mr Stoddart was now 191, and as Hearne, the last man, arrived the crowd seemed to manifest much interest as to Mr Stoddart's second 100, which, however, he was not destined to reach, for at 327 Mr Dixon bowled out Hearne.

Mr Stoddart met with a great reception from the members in the pavilion. He had taken his bat through the innings for 195, and during the three hours and a half his hitting had possessed uniform vigour and finish; he got most of his runs by driving, but his cutting and leg-hitting powers were frequently illustrated. He made 28 fours, eight threes and 14 twos. Although the Notts men fielded excellently, the Middlesex runs averaged about 93 an hour. Mee, it has been noted, took his first

five wickets for 41 runs, his sixth cost 79. The last four wickets put on 212 runs.

Nottinghamshire started well with Shrewsbury and Gunn, but after 46 had been obtained in 35 minutes Shrewsbury was caught at slip. Barnes played excellently. He had contributed 36 out of 51 for the second partnership when Mr M'Gregor caught him at wicket. Two for 97. Flowers and Gunn played out time, the figures at the finish being 107. Thus ended a splendid day's cricket, which produced 434 runs, played under such happy conditions as were furnished by fine summer weather and a fast and true wicket. The numbers that paid for admission to the ground were 5,181; these, with the members, brought the attendance to about 7,000. Rawlin's absence from Middlesex will be noticed, and the cause of the county's losing his invaluable services as a bowler is an attack of rheumatism.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 June, page 11)

Yesterday, at Lord's, was another day of batting triumphs almost equal in merit to those of Monday. Notts were fighting an uphill match to which fact much of the steadiness may no doubt be attributed. Gunn's fine defence and forward play, by which he obtained over 100 runs, furnished the backbone of Nottinghamshire yesterday; but the quietude which had prevailed for nearly four hours was broken late in the afternoon when the company had another spell of Mr Stoddart, with whom they grew loudly enthusiastic. His 94, not-out, was full of the same vigour and finish of his wonderful powers, and Mr Stoddart is now within almost easy range of achieving the feat of scoring 100 runs in each innings of match. The standard of excellence of the Lord's wickets has already been pretty well tested by the fact that over 800 runs have been made on the true pitch.

Nottinghamshire, who had gone in against 327, had scored 107 for the loss of Shrewsbury and Barnes. They resumed their batting at 20 minutes to 12. Gunn and Flowers showed extreme caution, and the former had been in about two hours when he reached 50; directly afterwards he gave a difficult chance to the wicket-keeper. Seventeen were made in 40 minutes; but the partnership had realized 62 in 65 minutes when Mr Stoddart bowled Flowers. Daft stayed a long while and helped to put on 33 when a skilful catch at point dismissed him, while the visitors lost their captain at 212.

Five men were now out, but with Gunn thoroughly set the prospect pointed to a pretty even score. Mr Wright, like his predecessors, was thoroughly content to play a quiet game. There were loud cheers, however, when Gunn reached his 100 after a stay of a few minutes under the four hours, and at luncheon he was credited with 104 out of 245. With 14 runs added, Mr Wright drove the ball into the hands of mid-on, making six wickets down for 259. Attewell came next, and the character of the cricket did not vary. He obtained six runs (four by an overthrow), but at 269 Gunn's fine innings was terminated by a catch at slip. Although he scored rapidly on Monday night his subsequent play was marked by every care, and it took him four and a half hours to make his 120. His chief figures were 15 fours, three threes and 11 twos.

After Attewell had been bowled at 273, Shacklock enlivened the play with some very hard hitting, and he stayed until 300, when Mr M'Gregor caught him at the wicket. With Sherwin wicket bowled the innings came to an end for 301, the result of five hours' batting. Hearne had bowled wonderfully well.

Middlesex went in a second time at 10 minutes past 4; Mr Webbe and Mr Stoddart, as usual, beginning the innings. But the light was very bad, especially to play against the fast bowling of

Mee, who with Attewell shared the attack. Only a single was recorded when Mr Webbe was caught at wicket; but then followed a stand by Messrs Scott and Stoddart. The latter made most of the runs, indeed Mr Scott had only scored 11 out of 42 when Shacklock was put on at the pavilion end and bowled him in the first over. Mr Foley now joined Mr Stoddart, who, after making 50 in an hour, batted steadily, doubtless in the hope of getting a second 100 in the match, a feat which only Dr W G Grace and Mr G Brann have ever achieved in important cricket.

Mr Foley gave a fine illustration of cutting. Mr Dixon varied his attack frequently but without effect, and the 100 went up at 5.25, while Mr Foley completed his 50 in 65 minutes. The score now rose rapidly. About this time Mr Stoddart discarded some of that caution which for a time had been exercised and two cuts for four and a single by him in an over from Shacklock at a quarter past 6 brought his figures to 88. He then played a maiden over from Mee who had resumed bowling at the pavilion end, but a single by Mr Foley enabled him to get to the other wicket and he secured a three from Barnes on the leg side. Mr Foley now got most of the bowling. When the last over of the day was begun Mr Stoddart had to play Attewell, but he only obtained a single and then stumps were drawn, his figures being 94 out of 184.

Messrs Foley and Stoddart have so far scored 142 for the third wicket. Middlesex are now 210 runs ahead with eight wickets to fall, so that they cannot very well lose the game. The last hour's play was perhaps more closely watched than any other of the day, and there was great applause at the finish. There were about 7,000 spectators, 5,531 of whom paid for admission. In contrast to the brightness of Monday the weather was dull and the atmosphere heavy.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 June, page 11)

The Middlesex and Notts match at Lord's in 1893 will be well remembered for Mr A E Stoddart's feat of playing two innings of three figures. On Tuesday evening he was only six runs short of three figures, and in the course of a few minutes yesterday morning he easily reached 100; his ultimate aggregate for being once out in the game was 319.

There are only a few instances, in first-class matches, of two innings of over 100 by one batsman in the same contest. Dr W G Grace has thrice done it – namely, in 1868, at Canterbury, for the South v North of the Thames, and twice at Clifton, in 1887 and 1888, for Gloucestershire against Kent and Yorkshire. Mr Brann is the only other batsman who has secured the great distinction, and his runs were scored last year at Brighton for Sussex in their match with Kent.

Apart from the batting of Mr Stoddart there were many other good points in this remarkable scoring match, the finish to which last evening was very exciting. Middlesex were pressed very hard for time. Mr Wright played a fine game, yet the blunder which led to Gunn's dismissal seemed to unsettle Nottinghamshire, and the uphill fight of the last few men failed to stay defeat. The excellence of the Lord's wicket was severely tested, and even after 1,205 runs had been scored it showed few signs of assisting the bowlers. In a first-class county match the highest aggregate was made in Middlesex v Yorkshire at Lord's four years ago when 1,295 runs were scored for 36 wickets. Fine weather prevailed yesterday, and an enthusiastic crowd of some 7,000 people witnessed the play.

Middlesex, who were 210 runs ahead in the second innings and had yet eight wickets to fall, resumed batting at 20 minutes to 12 with Messrs Stoddart (94) and Foley (64), who had made the great stand of the previous evening. The score was 184. In spite of the early start a large company

had assembled to see Mr Stoddart finish his innings. There was a prolonged round of applause when, with three singles and a late cut, he completed his 100. It should have been noted that Mr Wright kept wicket for Notts in the absence of Sherwin, whose hand was injured on Tuesday evening.

After Mr Stoddart had made his 100 he hit with less precision. He and Mr Foley having put on 154 in rather less than two hours were separated by Mr Foley's retirement – caught at wicket. In a good innings of 68 Mr Foley had made eight fours, two threes and seven twos. Neither Mr Henery nor Phillips gave much trouble, and at 239 the last was seen of Mr Stoddart, who skied the ball and was well caught at cover-point. He had in three hours and a quarter made 13 fours, seven threes and nine twos. Six for 239. Mr Ford's vigorous play was the best point in the close of the innings; he made 25 in ten minutes, and with Mr O'Brien put on 53 in half an hour. Mr Ford was caught at cover-point and Mr O'Brien at long-off, and at 1.20 the innings, which had lasted four hours, ended for 304.

There were four hours left for cricket, and Notts to win had to make 331. Shrewsbury and Gunn scored 32 runs in the 20 minutes before luncheon; and afterwards both seemed thoroughly set. A serious mistake in the Middlesex field occurred when Gunn was 30, Mr Scott badly missing him at short-slip. However, at 74 Gunn was run out by Shrewsbury, who, having driven Phillips to the off, called his partner for a run and then told him to return. Gunn, however, proceeded and both men were at the same end, with the result that Gunn's wicket was put down.

Nottinghamshire's misfortunes grew plentiful: a good ball from Hearne sent back Barnes at 86, Shrewsbury played on at 102, and Daft and Mr Dixon were out leg-before, these dismissals bringing the record to 116 for five wickets. Flowers, after giving two chances to Mr Scott at short-slip off Hearne, was well caught at cover-point for a vigorous 39. Six for 150 and two hours to play was a position that held out small hopes for the friends of Notts.

Attewell, the newcomer, gave easy chances to Mr Henery at third man and to Phillips at mid-on, after which, in three-quarters of an hour, he helped to add 56 runs. Hearne now bowled him. Mr Wright was joined by Shacklock and runs came at a rapid rate, but Mr Scott missed another catch, certainly somewhat difficult, which let Mr Wright escape. At length, at 254, the latter was well caught at mid-off for 61, a capital innings, included in which were nine fours, a three and four twos. After a stay of 20 minutes Mee was cleverly run out by Mr O'Brien, who threw the wicket down from point; the ball had gone there off Mee's pads, and the batsman forgot to keep inside the crease after an appeal for leg-before had been decided in his favour.

Sherwin, in spite of his injured hand, was last man in with only 18 minutes to play. He stayed a little time, but after giving a sharp chance at wicket he was bowled and, amidst great excitement, Middlesex won by 57 runs, there being only ten minutes to spare. The large crowd assembled in front of the pavilion and cheered loudly for Mr Stoddart. During the afternoon some six or seven catches were missed, and the ground fielding, too, was several times at fault. The attendance was as large as on either of the other days; close upon 5,500 people paid for admission and the pavilion was very full.

5 June: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3956.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 June, page 11)

Marylebone paid their annual visit to Oxford yesterday and met a team of the University in the Parks, this forming the last of the University trial matches before the eleven comes to town.

Marylebone, who had won the toss, went in first on a good wicket. They batted freely, with trifling exceptions, throughout. When Bean had been dismissed, Mr Wilson and Captain Quinton put on 66 runs in 40 minutes, the partnership of Messrs Hewett and Woods yielded 52 in half an hour, while the latter and Mr Leatham obtained 70 while they were together. Mr Woods, who had been batting 80 minutes for his 63, was eventually caught in the long-field. The last wicket did not fall until the total had reached 321.

Oxford began their innings with the brothers Palairt. Mr R C N batted well and had made 54 when stumps were drawn.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 June, page 11)

On a wicket that helped the bowlers the Oxford men fared badly in this match on their own ground in the Parks yesterday. Mead again bowled well, and his double analysis gave him an average of 11 each for 11 wickets. The M.C.C. won by an innings and 46 runs.

5 June: YORKSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3957.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 6 June, page 11)

There were about 10,000 spectators to witness the second match of the Australians with Yorkshire yesterday. In their first meeting at Brammall-lane [sic], Sheffield, the Australians were beaten on newly-laid and indifferent turf. On the present occasion, however, the match was at Bradford. The Park Avenue Ground is justly noted for the excellence of its wickets, and that provided yesterday proved no exception.

Messrs Blackham, Coningham and Walter Giffen stood out of the visiting team, while Mr E Smith, who captained Yorkshire in their victory over Middlesex, could not play, and Hunter, whose injured hand prevented his keeping wicket, had an able substitute found for him in Earnshaw, of Morley. The feature of the day was the batting of Mr Giffen, whose fine batting was only marred by an early chance. He was batting for four hours and ten minutes.

The Australians, who won the toss, sent in Messrs Lyons and Bannerman, and they were opposed by Peel and Wainwright. In the opening over Mr Lyons played the ball back to Peel. On Mr Giffen's joining Mr Bannerman the game became very quiet. When 25 runs had been gained Hirst went on for Wainwright, and then Mr Giffen gave an easy chance to Moorhouse at slip. Although Wardall relieved Peel and Moorhouse went on for Hirst, 50 runs were scored after an hour and ten minutes' play. Other bowling changes followed, but runs came rapidly. Mr Giffen hit confidently and with freedom. Out of the first 78 runs he was credited with 50. Mr Bannerman gave a chance, but was missed by Wardall. At the interval the score stood at 91 for one wicket.

On continuing Peel and Hirst were the bowlers, and before a run had been scored Mr Bannerman was caught at wicket. Mr Trott, the next batsman, shared the same fate as his predecessor for an addition 11 runs. Three down. Mr Bruce came in next, and the 100 was reached after two hours' play. Mr Giffen now began driving the ball with great vigour. In an hour he and Mr Bruce had run up 103. The latter was then dismissed. Mr Graham joined Mr Giffen. Mr Giffen obtained 150 out of 265, and the 300 was put up at 20 minutes past 5. Then came the dismissal of Mr Giffen through a catch at extra mid-off. He had batted brilliantly for his 171, in which were 20 fours, seven threes and 16 twos.

Mr Graham, who had well assisted Mr Giffen, now had Mr Gregory for a partner. These managed to keep up their wickets and to add 36 runs, when stumps were drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 7 June, page 11)

There was a little rain yesterday at the Park-avenue Ground, Bradford, which delayed the continuance of this match until 20 minutes past 12. The whole of Monday had been occupied by the Australian batting, 336 being obtained at the cost of five wickets. Mr Gregory (19) and Mr Graham (62) resumed the innings to the attacks of Hirst and Peel.

With only 14 runs added, Mr Graham returned the ball. Mr M'Leod arrived, but half a dozen runs later he lost the company of Mr Gregory, who was clean bowled. A catch at point disposed of Mr Turner, and Mr Trumble joined Mr M'Leod. The new-comer seemed anything but at home with the

bowling, while, on the other hand, his companion for some little time hit freely. The 400 was reached at 25 minutes past 1. In spite of frequent changes in the bowling runs came rapidly, and at the interval 443 were recorded for eight wickets.

Afterwards Peel and Wainwright had charge of the attack. Both batsmen had an escape; Mr Trumble, when he had made 47, should have been caught by Moorhouse at slip, and Mr M'Leod was missed by Hirst at mid-off after he had got 44. When the total had advanced to 465, Mr Trumble skied a ball between the wickets and was caught. Mr Jarvis's stay was brief and, after seven hours' play, the innings closed for 470, Mr M'Leod taking out his bat for 47. This is the second highest score made by the Australian team. It was beaten in their match (the third of the tour) against Gloucestershire, when they obtained 503.

In a bad light, Mr Sellers and Wardall started the county's batting. Messrs Giffen and Turner were the bowlers. Nine runs were obtained in a quarter of an hour, and then the umpires decided that the light was too bad for cricket. After a delay of 20 minutes the game was resumed. The score was steadily advanced to 35, when Mr Giffen crossed over and his place was taken by Mr M'Leod. This proved an effective alteration, Wardall being at once cleverly caught by third man. Tunnicliffe came, but a further cessation of play for a quarter of an hour was necessary owing to the bad light.

At 5 o'clock, however, Mr Sellers and Tunnicliffe resumed their batting. So freely did they hit that 41 were added before the professional was caught at third man. Brown filled the vacancy, and Mr Sellers should soon afterwards have been caught by Mr Gregory at extra mid-off. Several bowling changes were tried, but these did not prevent the 100 from being recorded at 6 o'clock. Mr Sellers, who had been batting so well, was ultimately caught at point with the total at 120. Peel joined Brown, who had an escape at the hands of the wicket-keeper. In the last over of the day Peel played on.

There were 10,000 spectators present. To-day the match will be resumed at 11 o'clock and stumps will be drawn at 4, owing to the long distance which the elevens have to travel to meet their engagements to-morrow.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 8 June, page 11)

At Park-avenue, Bradford, yesterday, according to arrangement, the actually playing time was limited to a little over four hours. The close of the second day left the Australians with a completed innings of 470, while four of the county wickets were down for 121. Brown (not out 29) and Wainwright went in and were opposed by Mr Giffen and Mr Trott.

Yorkshire began very badly, as Brown was caught at slip from the latter's first ball and Moorhouse was quickly bowled. Mounsey, who followed, gave a sharp chance to Mr Graham at third man. He was let off, but soon afterwards a catch at deep square-leg dismissed Wainwright. The batsmen had now been disposed of for eight runs. Ulyett came next and should have been caught at slip by Mr Trumble when he had made six. Thirty-four runs were added when Mounsey was well caught at short-leg. Hirst, who had an escape in the long-field at the hands of Mr Lyons, batted vigorously, and with Ulyett obtained 52 in half an hour. The latter then played on and Earnshaw was bowled. Total 220.

There were two and a half hours left for play when Yorkshire, with arrears of 250, began their follow on. Mr Sellers and Wardall were confronted by Messrs Trott and Turner. Only a dozen runs

were made and then Mr Sellers's off stump was struck by a ball which he did not play at. Tunncliffe joined Wardall, and at the interval 19 runs had been scored.

On resuming Mr Coningham fielded as substitute for Mr Giffen, whose leg had been injured. Wardall was bowled at 32, but Tunncliffe, who had given two chances, and Brown batted so well that the 50 was reached at ten minutes past 2. Mr M'Leod then went on for Trott, and in his first over Tunncliffe was secured by third man. Peel was speedily stumped, and with Mr Trott bowling again Brown was out. Half the wickets were now down for 73, and there yet remained 80 minutes for play.

Moorhouse and Wainwright, however, made a capital stand. When the former had obtained 24 he was left off by Mr Graham at cover-point. Various changes ensued, but runs came freely, and the score was doubled in three-quarters of an hour. Wainwright, after obtaining 53, was missed by Mr Graham at long-on, but at length fell to a catch in the slips. Ulyett joined Moorhouse, and at 196 stumps were drawn. The game was left undecided, Yorkshire yet requiring 54 to avert the innings defeat.

Thursday 8 June, page 11: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v AUSTRALIANS

It had originally been intended to place a Gentlemen of England side in the field at Lord's on Monday against the Australians, but as some difficulty arose in getting up a representative team the M.C.C. decided to substitute a return match between themselves and the Colleges. It is understood that Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr T C O'Brien, Mr C J Kortright, J T Hearne, Gunn, Flowers, Storer and either Mee or Shacklock will be among the Marylebone players.

8 June: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3958.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 9 June, page 12)

Before a very large number of spectators the Australians yesterday began their match against Cambridge University at Cambridge. Mr Blackham, the captain, Mr Walter Giffen and Mr Conyngham were not included in the colonial eleven. Cambridge were able to place what may be regarded as their strongest team in the field.

The home side won the toss, Mr Jackson and Mr Douglas went in and were opposed by Mr M'Leod and Mr G Giffen. Runs were rapidly scored, Mr. Douglas going in for some hard hitting. In Mr Giffen's first three overs 22 were scored, and this free treatment caused that bowler to give way to Mr Trott. Still runs came, and though a two-fold change in the attack was tried (Messrs Bruce and Turner going on), half an hour's play brought 60 runs. Mr Douglas completed his 50 five minutes later, but when the score stood at 73 Mr Turner clean-bowled him; his chief hits were ten fours and three threes.

With Mr Latham in, Mr Giffen resumed and Mr Turner crossed over. These tactics did not stop the 100 being recorded at ten minutes past 1. Mr Bruce was tried again, and from his first ball Mr Jackson was secured by the wicket-keeper. The Cambridge captain had been in an hour and 20 minutes, and among his hits were eight fours, a three and three twos. [Two] for 119. Mr Latham and Mr Ranjitsinhji made a determined stand, and at luncheon had advanced the total to 156.

Afterwards Messrs M'Leod and Turner undertook the attack. The former's first ball took Mr Latham's wicket. A clever piece of stumping on the leg side disposed of Mr Hill at 179, and Mr Wells then joined Mr Ranjitsinhji. Both batsmen hit so freely that the 200 was recorded at 3.40. Many bowling changes were adopted, but it was not until 226 was reached that Mr Trumble had a trial. Then Mr Ranjitsinhji played under a ball of Mr Turner's, which slip secured; the retiring batsman had been in for an hour and three-quarters, and his principal figures were seven fours, four threes and three twos.

Cambridge soon lost two other wickets – Mr Gay caught in the long-field at 243 and Mr Jones played on. Mr Wells, who contributed a useful 35, was badly missed by Mr Bannerman at mid-off, but he was at last caught by cover-point. Eight for 246. Mr Perkins batted brilliantly, and he made the hit of the day by driving a ball of Mr Turner's out of the ground. He was eventually stumped, and the Cambridge innings was brought to a close at five minutes past 5 for a total of 290.

Messrs Lyons and Bannerman began the Australian batting to the attacks of Messrs Jackson and Wells, who later gave way to Messrs Burrough and Hill. In the 25 minutes that remained for play the Australians put together 47 runs, and were not separated when stumps were drawn for the day . . .

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

There were between 6,000 and 7,000 spectators of the uphill fight of the Australians at Cambridge yesterday, and the play proved interesting. Messrs Wells and Hill bowled excellently in the afternoon, and the Australians had to follow on against 94. Mr Lyons then made 65 out of 81 in

three-quarters of an hour.

Day 3 (report from Monday 12 June, page 7)

By their excellent batting in the second innings the Australians on Saturday converted what had been a losing game into a success, the triumph being completed by the fine bowling of Mr Turner. There were between four and five thousand spectators of the closing cricket.

The Australians, after following on against a majority of 94, had finished on the second night with a lead of 66 and seven wickets in hand. Messrs Trott and Bruce continued the batting and were faced by Messrs Wells and Hill. The score was advanced from 160 to 177, and then Mr Bruce returned the ball, while the catching of Mr Graham in the slips brought the record to five for 198. The next partnership, that of Mss Trott and Gregory, spoiled the home prospect. Mr Gregory hit vigorously, and in the course of 50 minutes made 36 out of the 64 added during his stay. The outstanding wickets averaged 14 runs, and the innings was over just before luncheon for 319. Undoubtedly the best feature of the Australian batting was the fine form shown by Mr Trott, who increased his overnight figures of 15 to 71, and was seventh out, caught at long-off at 272. He made his runs in two hours by eight fours, two threes, nine twos and singles.

Cambridge were left to make 226 for victory – no small feat on a wicket that showed signs of wear, and three hours and three-quarters remained for the game. After luncheon Messrs Jackson and Douglas entered upon the task to the bowling of Messrs Turner and Giffen. The Cambridge misfortunes began early with the loss of the captain's wicket through an ill-judged run. Things went so badly for the home eleven that six men were dismissed for 40 runs; Messrs Hill and Wells had been bowled by successive balls from Mr Turner.

While everything was going against his side Mr Ranjitsinhji played sound cricket, and in Mr Perkins he at last found a batsman to stay with him a little time. It was this partnership that produced the only brightness of the Cambridge innings. Mr Perkins's batting grew quite severe and the bowling underwent alteration; but 37 were put on in 40 minutes before a dextrous right-hand catch at slip disposed of Mr Perkins, who had made a large proportion of the runs put on. The three remaining batsmen were got out for an additional 31, and at five minutes past 5 Cambridge had lost by 117 runs.

Mr Ranjitsinhji was loudly applauded; he had shown courageous defence and his not-out 37, obtained in two hours, gave him an aggregate of 95 for the match for being only once out. It will be learned with interest that Mr Jackson has given Messrs Ranjitsinhji and Perkins their "Blues" for the match against Oxford University at Lord's.

8 June: LANCASHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3959.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 9 June, page 12)

At Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, in spite of a little rain on Wednesday, the wicket proved fast and true. Surrey included Abel in their side, but Maurice Read was away indisposed. Mr Crosfield captained Lancashire, who went in first.

Ward and Mr M'Laren, the first two batsmen, played excellently, scoring 60 in 35 minutes and 81 in an hour. Then Richardson, going on a second time, bowled Mr M'Laren. Ward left soon afterwards, and neither Briggs nor Baker gave much trouble, and the fall of their wickets brought the score to 120 for four. The sixth wicket fell for 169. Mr Crosfield and Kemble put on 34 for the eighth partnership, and within a few minutes of 4 o'clock Lancashire were out for 230.

Surrey began badly and lost four wickets in 40 minutes for 31 runs. Mr W W Read, however, helped his side in an uphill fight, and was ably assisted by Mr Key. They added 65 in 55 minutes. Then Mr Key was dismissed. Subsequently, while his side were being steadily dismissed, Mr Read continued to bat brilliantly, and at the close of the day had scored 85, while Surrey were 147 with three wickets in hand.

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

Surrey gained a great victory over Lancashire, at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday. They had the worst of the game on Thursday night but a continuance of Mr Walter Read's fine batting and the subsequent bowled triumphs of Lockwood and Richardson turned the game in favour of Surrey, who won by seven wickets.

8 June: M.C.C. v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3960.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 9 June, page 12)

There was a fairly numerous company to witness the cricket at Lord's yesterday. Marylebone won the toss and at ten minutes past 12 Dr W G Grace and Mr Ferris went in. Wright and A Hearne were intrusted with the early bowling.

The batting opened steadily, and the first half-hour's play yielded 20 runs. Seventeen were carefully added, when Mr Ferris was bowled. One down. Chatterton arrived, and Martin superseded Wright. The newcomer played with the utmost caution. G G Hearne here relieved A Hearne. Further alterations in the attack followed. Dr Grace did most of the scoring, and at ten minutes to 2 the 100 was signalled, seven more runs being added before the interval. Subsequently Martin and Wright bowled for a little while, but at 127 A Hearne relieved Martin, and 19 runs later Wright gave way to Mr Malden. From the last-named Dr Grace, with an on-drive to the boundary, sent his score beyond the 100, when he had been batting for two hours and three-quarters.

G G Hearne was tried at 164, and in his first over Chatterton was taken at wicket. He had played a rather tame but useful innings, which had occupied him a little over two hours. Captain Hamilton joined Dr Grace, who was ultimately caught at wicket. He had been batting for three hours and a quarter, his principal hits being 17 fours, four threes and six twos. This is the fourth score of 100 made at Lord's during the present week. Three for 189.

Davidson arrived, and the 100 was registered at 20 minutes to 4. Seven more were obtained, and a catch at long-slip dismissed Davidson. Mr Ford drove George Hearne to the tennis-court boundary, and in the next over of Wright's he made two drives for four, and quickly afterwards hit the ball over the pavilion rails. Captain Hamilton was then caught by third man, and half the wickets had realized 239. Captain Luard joined Mr Ford, and 250 was reached a little before 5 o'clock. The last-named soon afterwards fell to a capital catch at third man. Six for 256. Five runs later captain Luard was bowled, and at 280 Mr Vanderspar was leg-before, while for the addition of a single a catch at wicket disposed of Pougher. Nine down. Board was clean-bowled, and the innings closed at a quarter to 6 for 287.

Kent had nearly an hour left for batting, but started badly by losing A Hearne (caught at wicket) before a single had been scored, and, when only five had been obtained, Mr Malden was out in the same manner. Messrs Blair and Wilson were now in opposition to Pougher and Mr Ferris. With the total at 43 Davidson, who had relieved Mr Ferris, clean-bowled Mr Wilson. The vacancy was filled by Mr Marchant, who, in the last over of the day, had the misfortune to be secured at wicket. Stumps were now drawn for the day . . .

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

In this match at Lord's yesterday the bowling of Pougher and Davidson proved most disastrous to Kent, who were defeated by an innings and 21 runs.

8 June: SUSSEX v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3961.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 9 June, page 12)

Many instances could be given of batting feats by Nottinghamshire at Brighton, and, with the Hove wicket as much a batsman's as ever, there was yesterday a recurrence of one of these extraordinary scoring days. Gunn and Shrewsbury were batting the greater part of the day, and in the four hours over which their partnership extended 274 runs were put on.

Gunn, who had joined Shrewsbury at 11, after the dismissal of Wharmby, should have been caught by Mr Smith at slip off Hilton, but this was the only apparent error in his innings of 156. He took four hours to make this number, and then he was bowled. The chief figures were 19 fours, three threes and 13 twos. Shrewsbury's batting was characterized by its well-known finish. In the last hour Barnes's cutting and driving were very profitable, and he scored 48 out of 91.

The cricket lasted five hours and a quarter, and in this time Sussex got out only two men for 376 runs. Fine weather prevailed, and there was a numerous company of spectators.

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

Nottinghamshire's big scoring in this match at the Hove Ground, Brighton, took them close up to the records for highest totals in first-class cricket. Three years ago, Cambridge University, playing against Sussex at Hove, made 703 for nine wickets, while in 1888 Surrey ran up 698 against Sussex at the Oval.

Yesterday Shrewsbury, having added six to his overnight figures, was caught at point. During his long stay of five hours and a half he made only one mistake – a chance to slip when his figures were 125. His chief hits were 22 fours, five threes and seven twos. He and Barnes put on 105 for the third wicket. Barnes, who was fifth out at 510, played with great brilliancy; in his 102 were 13 fours, four threes and five twos. Subsequently Attewell scored 89 in an hour and three-quarters. After the first six wickets had averaged about 100 each the innings rather quickly ended. Sussex went in . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 12 June, page 7)

The whole of cricketing hours at Brighton on Saturday were occupied by the batting of Sussex, who managed to draw their match with Nottinghamshire. The position of affairs from which play was continued on Saturday morning stood thus: - Notts, 674; Sussex, 80 for four wickets.

Mr Murdoch's fine defence furnished one of the best points in the last day's play. He went in first wicket down at nine and was ninth to leave at 221, the figures at which all the last three men were out. The Sussex captain's innings of 75 extended over three and three-quarter hours and included 12 fours, four threes and four twos. His most useful partner was Guttridge, who in an hour and a quarter helped to add 87 for the sixth wicket. The professional made 50 of these, hitting nine fours, two threes and two twos. The innings ended shortly after luncheon, the six wickets during the morning having averaged about 23 runs each.

Sussex went in again at five minutes past 3, having to follow on with arrears of 453. There remained rather less than three hours and a half for play. Bean's brilliant batting aroused them enthusiasm of the onlookers, and the vigour with which he hit may be gleaned from the composition of his 69, made in 80 minutes out of 106. His figures were 13 fours, two twos and 13 singles. Mr Murdoch again played excellently, going in first wicket down at 46 and being third to leave at 205. He and Mr Newham had put on 99 during their partnership. Mr Murdoch's chief hits were eight fours, while Mr Newham made nine fours.

Four wickets were now down for 215. Mr Smith and Guttridge were quickly out, and for a moment there seemed a possibility that Notts would win, but Mr Brown and Humphreys kept up their wickets to the close, and the match, in which 1,159 runs had been made, was left drawn . . .

8 June: YORKSHIRE v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128151.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 9 June, page 12)

There was a good attendance at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday, when Essex were opposed by Yorkshire. The home side had the advantage of first innings on a true wicket. They started very well, although the scoring was quiet, and 90 went up with only a couple of men out. Two runs later Mr Owen sent the ball into the hands of mid-off; his 52 had been obtained by sound defence, and in an hour and three-quarters he hit five fours, a three and eight twos.

These Essex batting triumphs were not sustained, for, although Mr Hailey made some good strokes, the fall of the fifth wicket at 120 promised only a moderate total on the excellent pitch. Vigorous play by Burns gave plenty of life to the rest of the innings, but no one else did very much, and he, too, was bowled at 160 for 46, scored in an hour by five fours, five threes, three twos and singles. The last man left at five minutes past 4 to a clever catch at slip by Mr Sellers, and the total was 184.

When Yorkshire went in there remained about two hours for cricket. Lord Hawke was soon out, but Mr Sellers and Tunnicliffe put on 82 in the hour they were together, after which both were quickly dismissed. Brown and Peel batted steadily during the last three-quarters of an hour . . .

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

This match was concluded at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday. Yorkshire won by ten wickets.

The following are the present positions of the leading counties: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	3	3	0	0	3
Surrey	4	3	1	0	2
Middlesex	5	3	2	0	1
Notts	5	2	2	1	0
Sussex	6	2	2	2	0
Kent	3	1	1	1	0
Gloucestershire	6	2	3	1	-1
Lancashire	3	0	2	1	-2
Somerset	3	0	3	0	-3

12 June: M.C.C. v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3962.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 June, page 12)

There were about 10,000 spectators at Lord's yesterday to see the return match between the Australians and the Marylebone Club. In the Marylebone team were again Dr Grace, Mr Stoddart, Gunn, Flowers, Shacklock and J T Hearne, but there were five new men – Mr Kortright, a very fast bowler, who has been working hard and successfully for Essex; the Derbyshire professional, Storer; Mr O'Brien, Bean and A Hearne.

Choice of innings fell to the Australians, who began batting at 12.10 with Messrs Lyons and Bannerman. Mr Kortright and J T Hearne opened the bowling. With the figures at 22 Mr Bannerman was secured at wicket and Mr Giffen arrived. The new batsman, having secured four by an off-drive, called Mr Lyons, who had cut the ball to third man; the latter ignored the call, and when Gunn returned the ball both men were at the pavilion wicket. Storer threw the ball swiftly to Mr Kortright, the bowler, who, however, missed it, and it was left to Mr O'Brien to field the ball and put the wicket down. While the Marylebone team blundered in the field Mr Giffen made no attempt to get back nor Mr Lyons to complete the run, and the result of a bad piece of cricket all round was the dismissal of Mr Giffen. Two for 26.

Mr Trott now joined Mr Lyons, and the 50 was completed in three-quarters of an hour. With Mr Kortright's bowling getting short and runs coming freely from it, Dr Grace altered the attack and put A Hearne on, while at 73 Shacklock relieved J T Hearne. Lyons obtained various fours by drives and leg hits, completing his 50 after an hour and five minutes' play; Mr Trott, too, made sundry boundary hits, but with his score at 19 sent the ball dangerously near A Hearne at short slip. The play had grown quieter since the signalling of Mr Lyons's 50; but the pace revived, and there was a loud cheer from an already big crowd as the 100 went up at 1.30. Again was the attack altered; Mr Kortright went on at the pavilion end and Shacklock was tried at the nursery. Boundary hits were plentiful, and Mr Lyons turned to profitable account some "long hops" from Mr Kortright. Dr Grace had almost exhausted his bowling variations, but at last Flowers was tried at 143, and with his third ball he got out Mr Lyons, who was cleverly caught from a low hard drive at the third attempt by Mr O'Brien fielding at long-off close to the pavilion rails. The partnership had yielded 117 runs in 70 minutes; Mr Lyons had been in an hour and three-quarters, and his 83 was a fine display of hard driving; his chief hits were 15 fours, one three and five twos.

Mr Bruce did very little, and the last ball before luncheon clean bowled him. Thus matters had somewhat changed at the adjournment, when four men were out for 150.

After luncheon Mr Trott was joined by Mr Graham, and the bowlers were still Flowers and Shacklock. Some capital fielding by Bean at extra mid-off was loudly applauded by the spectators. Mr Trott was soon after bowled by Flowers. He had been in an hour and 35 minutes, and his 56 runs were the result of fine batting. His chief hits were seven fours, four threes and a two. Messrs Graham and Gregory were next together, but Mr Graham was well taken by Gunn at long-on off Flowers's bowling. Six for 187.

There was considerable dullness in the partnership of Messrs Gregory and M'Leod. The 200 went up at 3.30, after which J T Hearne displaced Shacklock, while at 2.15 Mr Kortright had another trial at the pavilion end and at last met with success, for in his first over he got Mr Gregory well caught

at wicket. Twenty-eight runs had been slowly added and seven men were now out for 215. Mr Turner was caught at wicket at 230, a single later Mr Kortright bowled Messrs Trumble and Jarvis, and thus the innings, which had lasted over three hours, closed for 231.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Stoddart opened the Marylebone batting and half-past 4. Mr M'Leod and Mr Turner started the bowling. Mr Stoddart had the misfortune to play Mr Turner's first ball on to his wicket. Gunn arrived, and Dr Grace obtained four by a cut. At 25 Mr Bruce relieved Mr Turner, who crossed over to the pavilion end. These bowlers stopped the run-getting and the play became very quiet; but with Mr Trott on there was a sharp single to rouse the spectators, and then Dr Grace got Mr Turner away to leg for four. Following this came another stolen run, which would probably have cost Gunn his wicket had Mr Jarvis taken the ball from the return. By careful cricket the figures were advanced to 50 in rather less than an hour.

In spite of other changes the batting remained steady, and an appeal for leg-before against Dr Grace was answered in the batsman's favour. After more caution Gunn made a fine off-drive for four, and then Dr Grace drove Mr M'Leod twice to the on-boundary. With Mr Turner bowling again, the home captain completed his 50 after a stay of an hour and a half; but in the new bowler's second over Gunn was caught at short slip for 36. Eighty-seven runs had been added for the wicket in 90 minutes.

A Hearne joined Dr Grace, who scored four by a cut and three by a leg hit, bringing up the 100 at a quarter past 6. Another stroke on the leg side by Dr Grace yielded four runs and, following a spell of quietude, he got four by a cut. "Time" was reached and the batsmen were still not out, the record being 114 for two wickets. Dr W G Grace had played fine cricket.

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

The variety of the cricket and the frequency with which fortune has alternated her favours kept the attention of the great crowd closely riveted on the second day's play in the Australian match at Lord's. Monday evening left the match fairly even, but the balance was disturbed early yesterday by the bowling of Mr Turner, to whom the first seven M.C.C. wickets all fell. But the run of ill-fortune was stayed by the sound cricket of Storer and Shacklock, and Marylebone were in the end able to claim a small lead on the first innings.

Storer, who had made his mark as a wicket-keeper of more than average ability, proved himself a capable batsman at a critical time; and he distinguished himself again when the Australians went in a second time, the catching of Mr Bannerman and the stumping of Mr Trott being both dextrous pieces of work performed in the second over. Messrs Lyons, M'Leod and Bruce brought back considerable evenness to the game; and, when the M.C.C. were left to make 175 on a wicket that possessed some elements of uncertainty, past experiences made many believe the task to be sufficiently heavy.

Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart played superbly, and 83 in 45 minutes was a splendid start for the last innings of the match. Mr Giffen's inability, through a strained leg, to bowl was a severe handicap to the Australians. Messrs Turner and Kortright may be said to have carried off the bowling honours of the day. Considering the kind of attack to which he stood up, Storer achieved a feat in preventing a single bye in the visitors' second innings, and the way in which he took the ball on the leg side was well marked by those who closely watched the play. On both sides the fielding was excellent, and in that of the Australians Mr Trott at point and Mr Graham at third man especially

distinguished themselves. The attendance reached fully 11,000; the number who paid for admission was 9,303, some 500 more than on the first day, while the pavilion and members' enclosures were again very full. Overnight the Australians had scored 231 and two M.C.C. wickets were down for 114.

The prospect of further good batting by Dr Grace no doubt had much to do with the big attendance at the early start, when the Gloucestershire captain, with A Hearne, continued the Marylebone innings. It was not a very good beginning for the home side. Mr Turner, who with Mr Trumble shared the attack, bowled with great effect. After Dr Grace had survived an appeal for a catch at wicket he was finely caught at point, where Mr Trott fell in taking the ball. Dr Grace had only increased his overnight figures by four, but his 75 was a very good innings, which extended over rather more than two hours, and included 12 fours and three threes.

In the course of a few overs Bean, Flowers, Mr O'Brien and A Hearne, the last of whom had been in an hour and a half for 19, fell to Mr Turner's bowling, and thus the character of the game underwent a great change. But Shacklock and Storer made an invaluable stand. They played sound cricket, watching the bowling with much care and punishing every loose ball. Shacklock might have been caught at wicket when he had scored five, and was subsequently given "in" from a confident appeal. The resistance was so strong that the attack was changed, and Mr Turner, who had taken all the wickets, gave way to Mr M'Leod, while Mr Trott went on at the other end. There was warm applause for Storer's drive for three, which sent the 200 up, while directly afterwards there were more cheers for a couple of fine square-leg hits by Shacklock, the ball in the second instance pitching on the canvas covering the terraces. Both men were caught in the slips at 215, their partnership having produced 48 runs in three-quarters of an hour.

Nine men were now out for 215. Mr Kortright, however, made drives for five (run out) and two fours, and the spectators were very enthusiastic as the Australian score was passed, but the innings closed soon afterwards. It was noteworthy that Mr Jarvis had not given one bye.

As it was ten minutes to 2 when the Marylebone Club were out, the Australians did not begin their second innings until after luncheon. Messrs Lyon and Bannerman were opposed by Mr Kortright and J T Hearne. From the former Mr Lyons, after being nearly bowled, made four by a snick to leg; but Hearne's was a very eventful over. From the first ball Bannerman was caught at wicket, Storer only making the catch at the fourth or fifth attempt, while a fine piece of stumping dismissed Mr Trott from the fourth ball.

Two wickets for four runs was a start that the Englishmen supplemented with some wonderfully keen fielding. Messrs Lyons and M'Leod, however, scored freely. Shacklock and Flowers were put on at 53, and in the former's third over Mr Lyons played on. In 50 minutes he had scored 45 out of 69 by vigorous play; his chief figures were ten fours and a two. Messrs M'Leod and Graham were now partners. The former played an altogether better game than on Monday, and very soon Shacklock crossed over and A Hearne was tried at the nursery end. With the total at 98 an excellent catch at mid-on disposed of Mr Graham, while, after the 100 had been reached at 10 minutes past 4, Mr Kortright went on and got Mr M'Leod caught at extra slip with his first ball. The outgoing batsman had played excellently for 38. Mr Gregory was soon bowled, and when six men were out the figures were only 105.

Mr Giffen, who was suffering from a sprained leg and who had had a man to field for him in the early part of the day, came in late and with Mr Bruce added runs slowly. J T Hearne again bowled from the nursery end, and at 130 he caused Mr Giffen to play on. Twenty-five runs had been

obtained by very careful cricket. Mr Turner stayed until 151, when he was bowled by the Essex amateur. Mr Bruce made several very fine drives, but at 179 Mr Kortright finished up the innings by dismissing Messrs Trumble and Jarvis with successive balls, a feat that he had performed on the first day. Mr Bruce when 42 had been badly missed at long off by Burns, fielding substitute for Gunn, who had retired because of a severe cold; he took out his bat for 46, in which were eight fours, a three and three twos.

Marylebone began the last innings of the match at a quarter to six, requiring 175 to win. Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart quickly got set and made many beautiful strokes. Forty in 20 minutes and 50 in half an hour furnished a rate of run-getting that was thoroughly enjoyed by the spectators. It was in vain that the Australians changed their bowling, and at the close Marylebone wanted 92 to win and had all ten wickets in hand.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 15 June, page 11)

Excellent starts by the side playing the last innings of a match have sometimes been very delusive in important contests between English teams and Australians, so that even the fine beginning made by Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart on Tuesday evening did not allay every fear of Marylebone's friends. But yesterday at Lord's witnessed no recurrence of any of those startling incidents which made so famous the England v Australia finish in 1882 or aroused so much excitement as last month when Marylebone, after leading by 181 runs on the first innings, only just saved the match. On this occasion a great victory has to be recorded for the M.C.C., whose first two batsmen, Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart, saw the game safe before they were separated.

Early visitors to St John's Wood, yesterday, must have thoroughly appreciated the last stage of the first Marylebone partnership. Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart each made some beautiful cuts and drives; 120 in 75 minutes for the first wicket in the fourth innings was a feat well worthy of the great cricketers by whom it was achieved. Dr Grace had an aggregate of 120 for the match, while the second innings of Mr Stoddart made full amends for his failure on Monday.

Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart, who had made 83 of the 175 required by Marylebone, renewed the batting at 11.40, and were opposed by Messrs Trumble and Turner. Mr Stoddart completed his 50 by a cut for three, after which each batsman made a boundary hit, and these items with four leg-byes sent the score into three figures at ten minutes to 12. Dr Grace next scored two fours by a cut and a leg-hit from Mr Trumble, while his companion gained four and two by a cut and a drive. Mr M'Leod relieved Mr Trumble at 117, and the latter soon went on at the nursery end. This last change was effective, as in the next over Dr Grace was well caught at mid-off; the wicket had yielded 120 in an hour and a quarter, of which Dr Grace's share was 45, comprising five fours, a three, six twos and singles. Mr Stoddart was out 11 runs later, beaten by a ball from Mr Trumble; his was a brilliant innings of 74, in which were ten fours, two threes and eight twos.

Only 44 runs were now wanted and, although the bowling was varied, A Hearne and Bean obtained 28 of these before the latter was caught at wicket. Flowers and A Hearne soon secured the remaining runs necessary, Flowers making the last two strokes of the match from Mr Trott, a drive and a leg-hit for four each. Marylebone won by seven wickets.

12 June: YORKSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3963.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 June, page 12)

Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, was yesterday the scene of extraordinary cricket, in which bowlers' triumphs furnished the chief feature. In the course of some five hours three innings were completed, and a little progress was made with the fourth. These facts point to a bad wicket, of which the bowlers took full advantage.

Yorkshire went in first and were all out for 98 in an hour and three-quarters. The score was much larger than at one time seemed probable, as the first seven wickets fell to Richardson's fast bowling for 27 runs. Moorhouse and Mounsey added 53 for the ninth partnership. Richardson's nine wickets cost only 47. Surrey fared even worse than their rivals. Four men were lost for six runs, and when six were out Wardall was put on and quickly dismissed the remaining four batsmen.

Yorkshire's second innings was a repetition of much of the earlier sensational cricket. Lockwood on this occasion was the chief cause of the discomfiture of the home team, and got the first eight wickets for 38 runs. Again Moorhouse came to the rescue of his side and, aided by Hirst, put on 48. Surrey went in to get 118 to win . . .

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

The wicket at Bramall-lane, Sheffield, remained treacherous to the finish, and this match yesterday ended in a victory for Yorkshire. A large company assembled to see the close of the game, Surrey having been left to make 99 to win with nine wickets in hand.

Mr Shuter decided not to have the pitch rolled yesterday morning. The Yorkshiremen made most of their opportunities. Abel and Hayward, the not-outs, added 15 runs before they were separated; but when Wardall went on for Wainwright the Surrey batting collapsed. Yesterday morning, in an hour and ten minutes, the nine outstanding wickets fell for 40 runs. The home fielding was excellent, and Tunnicliffe at short slip made two very fine catches. In the match 40 wickets fell for an average of only eight runs each. Yorkshire won by 58 runs; it was their fourth victory this season, the other counties whom they have beaten being Middlesex, Gloucestershire and Sussex.

12 June: LEICESTERSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/124/124180.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 June, page 12)

Without the services of Mr Dixon, Gunn, Flowers and Shacklock, the Nottinghamshire team took the field at Leicester yesterday. The pitch helped the bowlers and the visitors had the best of the cricket. Bennett claimed five wickets for 43 runs and Mee four for 52.

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

An improved wicket made the batting at Leicester yesterday far more interesting than that seen on Monday. The partnership of Daft and Hardy, who put on 98 runs, was the feature of the Notts innings.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 15 June, page 11)

Yesterday, at Leicester, the home county gained a well-merited victory over a Nottinghamshire team. Thursday night had left Leicester with the best of the game, as they were 152 runs ahead with six wickets to fall. Tomlin, who had batted so well on the second day, added only three runs to his 102. His was in three and a half hours; his chief hits were 13 fours, six threes and five twos.

Notts had to score 192 for victory, but they started badly, losing Shrewsbury, caught in the slips, and Mr Howitt for 34. Attewell and Barnes obtained 64 runs for the third wicket, after which the innings steadily came to an end and the side were all out on two hours and a quarter. Attewell's capital 58 included four fours, six threes and four twos. Leicestershire were victorious by 57 runs.

12 June: DERBYSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128146.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 13 June, page 12)

After a lapse of some years the matches between these counties has been revived. Yesterday's play at Derby was interesting. Lancashire were batting the greater part of the day, and the best point in their innings was the cricket of Sugg, who hit seven fours, four threes and two twos.

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

After following on with arrears of 141 Derbyshire played a capital uphill game at Derby yesterday. Lancashire won by six wickets. The bowling of Mold, whose double analysis was 13 wickets for 142 runs, proved a feature of the match.

Wednesday 14 June, page 11: THE PLAYERS OF ENGLAND v THE AUSTRALIANS

The Players team for this match at Lord's next Monday was yesterday finally settled as follows: - Gunn, Barnes, Shrewsbury, Sherwin, Flowers, Attewell, Bean, Lockwood, Richardson, Tyler and Davidson. Lancashire and Yorkshire and Kent and Middlesex are engaged on Monday, or doubtless the constitution of the team would have been a little different.

Thursday 15 June, page 11: THE AUSTRALIANS v THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND

The South of England team at the Oval to-day will consist of Dr W G Grace, Mr W W Read, Mr L Wilson, Mr J Douglas, Mr C M Wells, Mr L H Gay, Mr K S Ranjitsinhji, Richardson, Murch, Brockwell and another. With Middlesex, Sussex and Somerset engaged in county cricket, it was impossible to get a thoroughly representative southern eleven together.

15 June: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3964.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 16 June, page 11)

The Nottinghamshire eleven were batting the whole of the hours available for cricket at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday. Mr A O Jones appeared in the home side, from which Mr C W Wright was absent, while Mr Hornby again captained Lancashire, who are giving a trial to a new wicket-keeper in C Smith of Little Lever.

Notts began indifferently, and in the course of three-quarters of an hour lost Gunn, Barnes and Flowers, these three wickets being down for 25 runs. Shrewsbury was now joined by Daft, and in three hours 214 were added. Daft played with the utmost care in making his 60, but he was twice missed – soon after reaching 30 – by the wicket-keeper and Briggs (cover point).

The great feature of the day was the finished batting of Shrewsbury, who was eventually bowled off his pads for 148. The excellence of the fielding and bowling kept the runs down before luncheon, and Shrewsbury in the hour and 50 minutes prior to the interval obtained only 33. Afterwards, however, he ran up 114 in three hours. His chief hits were 14 fours, 11 threes and 13 twos. Mr Jones played well and helped Shrewsbury to add 53 in the 40 minutes that they were partners.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 June, page 13)

Yesterday's play at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, was very like that of the opening day, when Notts scored 302 for eight wickets. The innings was completed in a quarter of an hour for an addition of 16 runs. Then Lancashire wet in and their batting lasted until about 6 o'clock.

Ward and Mr M'Laren made a good start, scoring 48 before the latter's dismissal. Sugg joined Ward, who was caught at wicket at 70, while A Smith, after helping to add 63 in an hour, was bowled. Three men were now out for 133. The next partnership was between Briggs and Sugg, and it roved one of great profit, for in an hour and 20 minutes 101 runs were scored. Sugg was the sixth to leave, at 289, for a brilliant 127, made in rather less than three and a half hours, by 17 fours, five threes, eight twos and singles. He gave a sharp chance to slip when his figures were 62, and at about 90 Flowers might have caught and bowled him. Sherwin also had a chance of stumping him.

C Smith batted carefully, and the innings, which lasted five hours, closed for 322, giving Lancashire a lead of four runs. Attewell had bowled well, and his five wickets cost only 71 runs – a very good record in such a long innings. The Nottinghamshire fielding was much below the average, and several catches were missed . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 19 June, page 7)

Saturday's play at Trent-bridge afforded a strong contrast to that of the two days which had preceded it. Instead of great batting there were bowling triumphs to record, and the last stage of a remarkable game was very exciting. The home side, who had scored a single in their second innings, continued batting to Mold and Briggs.

With his third ball the former dismissed Mr Dixon. Flowers was caught at short leg; Shrewsbury, after being missed at wicket, was stumped; and Mee, Mr Jones and Barnes were bowled. Six men were out for 35. Daft and Attewell were caught at cover-point from successive balls, and eight wickets were down for 46. Shacklock, who has repeatedly proved himself of great value in batting at a critical time, again rendered his side service. He and Gunn by good cricket put on 35 for the ninth partnership, and then the latter was bowled by Briggs. Shacklock had a couple of mistakes before being caught at cover-point, and the Notts innings ended at 1.25 for 92. Briggs and Mold each had a good analysis, and the former's six wickets cost a fraction under six runs each.

Lancashire had 89 to make for victory, but with such effect did Mee bowl that five wickets fell for 39 runs. Mr M'Laren, who had been batting steadily, was now joined by C Smith, and as the score rose Shacklock was put on and Attewell crossed over. At 55 Mr M'Laren was out for 28. C Smith and Baker rapidly got the other runs, and at 25 minutes past 4 Lancashire won by four wickets. Some idea of the difference in the play of the first two days and the last is furnished by the fact that on Thursday and Friday the average for 20 wickets was 32, while on Saturday the average for 16 wickets was only 11.

15 June: SOMERSET v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3965.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 16 June, page 11)

Yesterday's play in this match at Taunton was of a very different character to that furnished by the same fixture last summer, when the scoring proved so extraordinary. Somerset, who were giving a trial to Bolus, a professional of Frome, had first innings on a pretty good wicket, and they were not out until 227 had been made in four hours; this was a rate of scoring to which spectators of Somerset cricket were not accustomed, but the batsmen's caution was made necessary by the skill of the bowlers.

The home runs were well distributed among the members of the side, only one player failing to get into double figures. Mr Hewett and Mr Fowler made 40 in half an hour for the first wicket, and Mr Hewett, who had a rather fortunate innings, scored 31 out of the first 57. Mr Robinson stayed with Nicols an hour while 38 were being added, and Mr Wood and Nicols put on 39 in 25 minutes for the sixth wicket. Nicols was in a couple of hours for his 45. Bolus and Mr Trask obtained 37 while they were together, and the Rev A P Wickham and Mr Trask secured 25 for the last wicket. Yorkshire soon lost Wardall, but Mr Sellers and Tunncliffe scored rapidly . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 June, page 13)

Excellent batting placed Yorkshire in a very favourable position at Taunton yesterday, when this match was continued on a fast and true wicket. Thursday had been occupied by the Somerset innings of 227 and the visitors' 67 for one wicket.

Yorkshire scored at a fast rate, indeed the average of their long innings was nearly 80 an hour. Somerset went in for 60 minutes . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 19 June, page 7)

The decisive victory of Yorkshire at Taunton on Saturday was not unexpected. Somerset found themselves on Friday evening with two wickets down and 179 necessary to avoid a single innings defeat. Messrs Fowler and Trask, the not-outs, were opposed by Wainwright and Moorhouse, and the former, with the score at 73, got Mr Fowler caught at wicket.

Mr Trask and Nicols made a stand and the bowling was several times varied, in spite of which the 100 went up at a quarter past 12. Having obtained 22 Mr Trask should have been caught at deep square-leg. Altogether the partnership lasted about an hour and a quarter, and during this time 57 runs were added. Mr Trask was then dismissed for 43. Four men were now out for 130. Brown, who had begun to bowl at 106, continued to meet with success, and three more wickets fell to him in the course of a few overs – Mr Hill caught at wicket, Nicols stumped and Mr Woods caught at point. Seven for 137.

The next three batsmen played steadily. Mr Robinson and Bolus added 33 in as many minutes, and the Rev C Wickham and Bolus put on 21 for the ninth wicket. Bolus was then caught at leg for 23. Tyler was unable to go in because of a slight sunstroke, and thus Yorkshire won by an innings and

54 runs, and so secured her fifth win in the county championship competition.

15 June: SOUTH v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3966.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 16 June, page 11)

County matches occupied so many of the South's best cricketers yesterday that the Surrey executive was not able to get a thoroughly representative side to meet the Australians in this game on the Oval. Cambridge University contributed four members to the eleven, Surrey three, Gloucestershire two and Kent two. Of course the team contained plenty of good players, with Dr Grace as captain, and the 7,000 people present in the afternoon showed that there was a considerable amount of interest aroused by the match. The Englishmen had much the best of the day's play. Dr Grace played with much of his old vigour, and to A Hearne, of Kent, fell the great batting triumph of the day, his 120 being the second best score yet made against the present colonial side.

Play began at ten minutes past 12, when Dr Grace and Mr Douglas started batting for the South, and were opposed by Messrs turn and M'Leod. In the absence of Messrs Jarvis and Blackham the position of wicket-keeper was filled by Mr Gregory until after luncheon, when the former arrived. Dr Grace showed good cricket, but Mr Douglas was caught at wicket at 23. A Hearne seemed very uncertain at starting, and he left his captain to do most of the scoring. Fifty were obtained in three-quarters of an hour, and then came a spell of indifferent play by Dr Grace, who made three very bad strokes in the slips, the first of which was a distinct chance to Mr M'Leod. Meantime Hearne had got well set; he was applauded for a couple of fine drives and his free batting accelerated the rate of run-getting.

During the morning Mr Bruce's fine fielding on the off side and at third man had been several times heartily cheered. When he went on to bowl at Mr Turner's end Dr Grace drove him for four, and reached 51 in just over the hour. Mr Coningham sent down a few overs, and in his second he twice nearly dismissed Dr Grace. There was more applause for the fine fielding of Mr Bruce, and then the 10 went up. But the end of the partnership was near, for Trott, going on at 108, bowled down Dr Grace's middle stump with a full-pitch ball, which the batsman endeavoured to get away on the leg side. Eleven fours, a three and four twos were among Dr Grace's chief hits in the 66, which had occupied an hour and a half. Two for 110.

Mr Read was nearly bowled by Mr Trott, and just before luncheon A Hearne, when he had scored 37, was badly missed by Mr Lyons at extra slip. After the interval runs came at a rapid rate, but there were various false hits by both men, in addition to which Mr Jarvis, who was now keeping wicket, let A Hearne escape with the latter's figures at 65. Mr Read and A Hearne had put on 80 runs for the third wicket when the former was clean bowled. Mr Wilson arrived, and the 200 was reached at a quarter to four. Then in an over from Mr M'Leod ten runs were scored by two drives by Hearne, a six being run out. Mr Wilson stayed while 42 were added in 20 minutes, after which both he and Mr Ranjitsinhji were quickly out, the latter, who had an enthusiastic reception from the spectators, losing his wicket through attempting a fourth run for a pretty leg hit of his own. Five men were now lost for 253.

With Mr Wells in, the crowd manifested keen interest in Hearne's score, which was rapidly approaching the three figures. An overthrow helped the Kent professional to complete his 100 amidst loud cheers at 4.30, the total at this time being 258. Three wickets fell in the course of the next half-hour. Mr Wells played on, Mr Gay was stumped and Brockwell returned the ball. Eight for 296. Murch, who followed, was missed by Mr Gregory at third man from a skier; but after the

300 had been passed the innings rapidly closed. Hearne was ninth out, caught at point; his stay had extended over rather less than four hours, and throughout this time he played sound cricket, sometimes scoring with much more than his usual freedom; his chief hits were a six, 17 fours and 15 twos. When Richardson, the last man, was bowled first ball, it was a quarter past 5. Total, 305.

The Australians started badly to the bowling of Murch and Richardson. From the former Mr Lyons was out to a well-judged catch in the long field when only 11 runs had been recorded. Mr Trott, who came next, did not play Richardson too well, although he made a couple of fours from him by good strokes on the leg side. Brockwell soon relieved Murch. At 41 Richardson caused Mr Trott to play on, while the figures were unaltered when a good ball from Brockwell bowled Mr Bannerman's leg stump. Play now ceased.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 June, page 13)

The Australians were beaten for the fifth time yesterday, at the Oval, losing in a decisive manner to the South of England team by ten wickets. They had been left with a hard up-hill game before them on Thursday evening, and those who visited the Surrey ground yesterday with any expectations of a good fight must have been sadly disappointed.

With one or two exceptions the visitors showed only feeble form against the bowling of Richardson, Brockwell and Murch; but, among the few batsmen who were successful, Mr Bruce stood out prominently, and his 53 in the second innings were the result of excellent cricket. At no time in the match did the wicket play absolutely true, and in this fact there was an excuse, perhaps, for some of the batting failures. But the Australians had only to blame themselves for the heavy score against which they had to battle, and a side cannot expect to win when catches are missed. There was a very good attendance and the weather continued beautifully fine.

Messrs Bruce and M'Leod went on at 11.40 with the Australian innings, in which three wickets were down for 41 runs. Brockwell and Richardson were the bowlers. Mr M'Leod was quickly caught at mid-on, while Mr Graham was fifth to leave at 76. The dismissal of the visitors was steadily maintained; Mr Gregory played on at 91 and Mr Bruce was bowled at 104, making seven men out. Then followed what was perhaps the best piece of hitting in the innings. Messrs Turner and Trumble scored so freely that Dr Grace changed the bowling at both ends, and put on Murch and Hearne. These tactics were quickly effective, as at 139 the former got Mr Trumble well caught at wicket. Mr Trumble had scored 26 out of the 35 added in 20 minutes. Subsequently Richardson went on again, and at 142 bowled out Messrs Coningham and Jarvis. The innings ended at 12.55. Richardson's six wickets averaged 14 runs each.

The Australians followed on against a majority of 163, and Messrs Lyons and Bannerman began in a far brighter manner than on the first day. Murch and Richardson were the bowlers, and in the former's first over Mr Lyons obtained 12 by three hits, and so quick was the scoring that 30 were made in less than a quarter of an hour. Brockwell soon came on for Murch; but the hitting, if a little uncertain, was profitable, and 47 were recorded in 25 minutes. Richardson then bowled Mr Lyons, the bail being sent a very long distance. The retiring batsman had contributed six fours and two singles.

Misfortunes now set in steadily for the Australians. Mr Bannerman was caught low down in the slips, and after luncheon another catch at slip disposed of Mr Trott. Three for 60. Mr Bruce now arrived and scored most of the runs; but no one stayed with him any length of time, and the fifth

wicket fell at 82. Mr Gregory saw the 100 up before he skied the ball to point; he was sixth out at 105. The next partnership was more profitable and furnished some of the best cricket of the day. Mr Bruce made some fine cuts and drives, while sharp running increased the lively nature of the play. However, Hearne was tried at 146 and, at 150, got Mr Bruce out leg before; he had scored 53 in an hour and ten minutes by six fours, four threes, five twos and singles. The innings defeat was saved at 4.35, but then the last three men were quickly out.

The South had only seven runs to make, and Mr Douglas and Murch quickly got them, and the Australians were beaten by ten wickets.

15 June: SUSSEX v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3967.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 16 June, page 11)

After the excellent form shown by Sussex this season their meagre display at Brighton in the last hour and 20 minutes of yesterday must have proved very disappointing to their friends. Their batting collapsed before the attacks of J T Hearne and Rawlin, who achieved the great feat of getting out the strong batting side on a true pitch. These bowling triumphs had been preceded by the fine batting of several members of the Middlesex eleven, in which Mr Webbe had found a place for Mr W S Hale, of the Hampstead Club, in whose ranks Mr Stoddart first made his mark.

It was to Mr Stoddart again yesterday that the excellent score of Middlesex had greatly to be attributed. He and Mr Webbe in the course of 85 minutes made 122 for the first wicket, Mr Stoddart being the second to leave at 142. He was in an hour and three-quarters for 95, and hit 13 fours, two threes and eight twos. While his innings was characterized by brilliant play, he twice escaped – at 28, when Mr Brann missed him at slip, and at 88, when Hilton might have caught him at mid-on. After Mr Stoddart had been disposed of, Humphreys's lobs were instrumental in the capture of the last eight wickets at a cost of 83 runs. Rawlin and Mr Hale got 42 in 35 minutes for the sixth wicket, while J T Hearne and Mr M'Gregor added 33 for the last.

Sussex made no stand against the bowling of Hearne and Rawlin; the former took six wickets for 32. To-day Sussex will have to follow on with arrears of 188. There was a large body of spectators.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 June, page 13)

Although showing considerable improvement in their second spell of batting, Sussex never recovered from their failures of Thursday evening, and yesterday at Brighton Middlesex won by ten wickets.

15 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v DERBYSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128143.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 16 June, page 11)

At Lord's, yesterday, some capital cricket was witnessed in the match between Marylebone and Derbyshire. The club lost four wickets for 18, after which the batting of Carpenter, Mr C W Wright and Burns considerably improved affairs. Carpenter and Mr Wright put on 47 for the fifth partnership, and Mr Wright and Burns added 91 for the sixth. The innings was finished for 190. Mr Wright was batting two and a half hours, and his chief hits were eight fours, two threes and six twos.

The rest of the day was occupied by the first part of Derbyshire's innings. Bagshaw played successfully and, as he received much support, the county were able to claim an advantage on the first day, for, with five wickets in hand, they are only four runs behind the home total.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 17 June, page 13)

The play in this match at Lord's yesterday proved interesting.

Day 3 (report from Monday 19 June, page 7)

At one time on Saturday morning at Lord's Derbyshire seemed likely to win; but after Mr Eadie and Sugg had put on 42 for the eighth wicket in half an hour the end of the county's innings was quickly reached, and Marylebone won the match by 26 runs.

Yorkshire's two victories last week have considerably strengthened their position among the counties. A table of results is given below: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	5	5	0	0	5
Middlesex	6	4	2	0	2
Surrey	5	3	2	0	1
Kent	5	1	1	1	0
Gloucestershire	6	2	3	1	-1
Lancashire	4	1	2	1	-1
Notts	6	2	3	1	-1
Sussex	7	2	3	2	-1
Somerset	4	0	4	0	-4

Monday 19 June, page 7: AUSTRALIANS v PLAYERS OF ENGLAND

At Lord's to-day Shrewsbury will be unable to play in this match because of an injured hand, and his place will be filled by either Chatterton or Shacklock. From the same cause Lockwood was kept out of the South of England game last week, but it is hoped that he will shortly be well again. The nine certain players are: - Gunn, Barnes, Flowers, Sherwin, Attewell, Bean, Richardson, Tyler and Davidson.

19 June: KENT v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3968.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 July, page 11)

The Middlesex eleven had the best of yesterday's play at the Bat and Ball Ground, Gravesend, obtaining a good score on a fiery wicket and then dismissing three of their opponents for 47 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 June, page 11)

Middlesex gained another victory yesterday, beating Kent at Gravesend by 84 runs. The concluding day's play proved very interesting, and the many bowling triumphs were relieved from monotony by several fine pieces of batting.

Kent, who had lost three wickets for 43 runs, fared pretty well in the morning, and the brilliant play of their captain gave the visitors' bowlers considerable trouble. Messrs Marchant and Knowles put on 68 runs for the fifth wicket in three-quarters of an hour. Middlesex in the end were left with a lead of 61.

The beginning of the visitors' second innings was almost sensational in its nature, for in half an hour Mr Stoddart, Mr O'Brien, Mr Hale, Mr Henery and Rawlin were out for 13 runs. Then Messrs Ford and M'Gregor raised the score to 61. The former played remarkably well and stayed until 98. Kent were left to score 160 for victory; but on the false wicket they proved unable to get half this number, being all out in an hour and a half for 75.

In the double innings Hearne took 11 wickets for 139 runs. These successes make his aggregate of wickets for the season in first-class cricket 104, a great feat considering the number of hard and true pitches on which he has had to bowl at Lord's.

19 June: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3969.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 July, page 11)

At Lord's yesterday the Australians were opposed by a powerful side of English professionals and got much the best of the game, and played all round in a way well worthy of Australian cricket. Batting first on a wicket that wore a good deal, they put together a score sufficiently large to give them a lead of 100 runs on the first innings. The two best points in the play were the feats, in the first place, of Tyler, the Somerset slow left-hand bowler, who, when put on at 105, took all the last six Australian wickets, and, in the second place, of Mr Trumble, whose skill completely baffled the English professionals. He also made three return catches and his full record was seven for 31.

There were about 10,000 spectators. Mr Blackham, the Australian wicket-keeper, reappeared for his side after a rather long absence, caused by an injured hand, and, thus strengthened, the Australians were able to play their best side.

The Australians went in first shortly after midday, Messrs Lyons and Bannerman beginning to Attewell and Richardson. Runs came rapidly. Richardson bowled very well, and at 31 he disposed of Mr Bannerman, the ball just hitting the top of the stumps. Mr Giffen's stay was brief, an easy catch at slip getting rid of him before he had scored, while the total was still 43 when Mr Lyons was out to a well-judged catch in the long-field. Three for 43.

Messrs Bruce and Trott both played well, and some sharp running helped to enliven the game. The score stood at 70 after an hour's cricket, and then Lockwood was put on for Attewell and Davidson was tried at the pavilion end. This latter change quickly took effect, for in the first over Mr Bruce was bowled. Forty-two had been added in little more than half an hour. Mr Graham joined Mr Trott, but the fielding and bowling were very good, and it was only very steadily that the score rose. Attewell and Flowers on the off side were loudly applauded for some fine stopping and returning, after which four byes completed the 100 at 1.20. Tyler was put on at 105, and his slow left-hand bowling greatly trouble the batsmen. Mr Trott played him very badly. Richardson was tried again at 118. Tyler continued to bowl very well, and at last, at 125, Mr Trott was cleverly stumped. The fifth wicket had yielded 40 runs. Mr Trott's was a capital innings, extending over 70 minutes.

After luncheon Tyler and Richardson were again the bowlers, and the former met with wonderful success. From his first ball Mr Graham was caught at wicket, and in the course of two or three more overs he clean bowled both Messrs Gregory and M'Leod. Mr Trumble was soon bowled and nine men were out for 160. Mr Blackham, the last man, scored 23 out of 29 in ten minutes, and then Mr Turner was caught at wicket after both batsmen had escaped off the same bowler (Tyler). It was 3.35 when the innings ended for 189. Tyler, of Somerset, had bowled splendidly; going on at 105 he had taken the whole of the last six wickets in 17 overs and three balls (six maidens) for 33 runs. He was loudly cheered when he returned to the players' room.

The Englishmen went in at 4 o'clock, and Mr Blackham began his bowling with Messrs Trumble and M'Leod. Gunn and Chatterton opened the batting and both exercised considered caution. Mr Trumble, in the course of a quarter of an hour, clean bowled Gunn and Bean. Barnes was out leg before at 17, and Flowers, after making a couple of cuts for four each, was sent back by Mr Trumble at 30. Lockwood started in a way that revived the hopes of the home team, but at 50 a beautiful return catch disposed of him. Amid all these disasters Chatterton had been playing with

every care, but at 65 he too fell to a return catch, against which he appealed. He had batted an hour and a quarter for 18.

Attewell left at 67. Richardson arrived, and on his vigorous batting seemed to rest the home team's last hopes of averting the follow on. He made a few good hits and then at 82 gave Mr Trumble an easy return catch. Tyler was soon caught at mid-on, and Sherwin, after making a cut for four, was bowled. The innings closed at 5.40, having lasted an hour and 40 minutes. It was a very poor display of batting. Mr Trumble, whose fine bowling had been supported by very keen fielding, was warmly cheered as he returned to the pavilion. His seven wickets had cost only 31 runs.

Exactly 100 behind, the Players followed on within a few minutes of 6 o'clock. Gunn and Chatterton faced the bowling of Messrs Trumble and M'Leod. Runs came steadily. The score reached 30 in 20 minutes, and then Mr Turner was put on at the pavilion end. The batsmen, however, kept together until the drawing of stumps, when the record was 33. The Players are therefore 67 behind with all ten wickets to fall.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 June, page 11)

The Australians followed up the advantage possessed by them in this match at Lord's on Monday evening, and yesterday gained a very substantial victory. Mr Trumble bowled splendidly and, going on a second time yesterday morning, captured seven of the last nine wickets. His aggregate for the game was 14, at an average of eight runs each,

By fine fielding and good bowling the Players strove hard to save the match, and when three men were out for 23 there seemed a chance that the Australians might not reach the required 74; but Sherwin rather erred in keeping Tyler on when Mr Giffen started hitting the slow bowler. Yet it was a match well won by the Australians, who had played excellently all round; and though Mr Trumble had a pitch that materially helped him he was bowling to a good batting side.

The victory will restore confidence to our visitors. This was their fifth game in London, and the first in which they have been successful. About 5,000 people visited the ground, and at the finish the Australians were warmly cheered.

Gunn and Chatterton, the not-outs with 16 and 17, resumed the Players' second innings, 67 runs being still needed to avert an innings defeat; but the whole ten wickets were intact. Messrs Trumble and M'Leod were the bowlers. As the figures travelled steadily Mr Giffen and Mr Turner took up the bowling, and the latter at once met with success by getting Gunn caught at slip for 43, an admirable innings made out of 74 in 70 minutes. Bean came next, and at once began to hit vigorously, causing Mr Trumble to resume, and bringing up the 100 at 12.25. Soon afterwards he drove a ball from Mr Trumble on to the top of the pavilion, and then, having obtained 30 out of 36 put on for the second wicket, he fell to an easy catch at third man. Two for 110.

The bowlers puzzled the Players repeatedly and wickets fell rapidly. Barnes for the second time in the match was out leg-before without scoring, Flowers was caught at mid-off and Chatterton, who had taken half an hour to make his 28th runs, was taken at wicket. After Attewell's dismissal at 130 Davidson and Lockwood added 24. Davidson, Richardson and Tyler were quickly bowled, while when Sherwin, the last man, came in Lockwood made ten in an over from Mr Trumble, and was caught from a hard drive at mid-off.

After luncheon the Australians began the task of getting 74 for victory. Messrs Lyons and Bannerman started to the bowling of Richardson and Tyler. Off the last ball of the latter's first over Mr Lyons was caught at slip, and in his third Tyler got Mr Bannerman out in the same way. Two men were thus dismissed for 14, and Messrs Giffen and Trott were together. At 23 a "yorker" from Richardson sent back Mr Trott. Mr Giffen, who was joined by Mr Bruce, ran in and drove Tyler for various twos and threes, and would have been even more successful except for Bean's brilliant fielding. At 38 Richardson bowled Mr Giffen, who had scored 27 out of the 35 added while he was batting. Messrs Graham and Bruce quickly secured the other runs, and the Australians won by six wickets.

19 June: YORKSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3970.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 20 July, page 11)

Yorkshire have fared well this season in their county engagements with southern teams, and the 10,000 people who visited the Headingley Ground, Leeds, yesterday, must have felt some disappointment at the collapse of their batting after an admirable start by Mr Sellers, Tunnicliffe and Wardall. Lancashire left off with a lead of 21 and four batsmen yet to be disposed of.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 21 June, page 11)

Yorkshire's victorious career in county cricket was checked in a somewhat remarkable manner at the Headingley Ground, Leeds, yesterday, when, on a crumbling wicket, their batsmen failed, and Lancashire, although scoring only 160, were able to win by an innings and nine runs. The position of affairs on Monday night was favourable to the visitors, who, with four wickets in hand, were 21 runs ahead.

Yesterday C Smith and Mr Crosfield met with some batting success, and the outstanding wickets produced 41 runs in 35 minutes. Thus Yorkshire had to face a deficit of 62. The whole side were put out in 80 minutes for 53, and Lancashire gained an easy victory. Lancashire have, in the course of a few days, gained two remarkable successes, over Notts and Yorkshire.

Tuesday 20 July, page 11: Sydney, 19 June

It is understood that Lord Sheffield has arranged to bring a team of cricketers to Australia, but, owing to the delay which has occurred in his lordship's [unclear] to this decision, the Australians will be unable to arrange a satisfactory list of matches.

22 June: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3971.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 June, page 12)

In spite of fine batting by Shrewsbury and Flowers at Bristol, yesterday, the general play approached dullness. Nottinghamshire's start was bright, and in 60 minutes Gunn and Shrewsbury scored 59; but then matters assumed great steadiness. With 200 up and only three men out there was a prospect of a big score, but the dismissal of the last six men for 67 runs reduced the record to within average limits.

Shrewsbury and Flowers each exceeded the 70, but, while Shrewsbury's finished 76 occupied three hours and 20 minutes, Flowers ran up his 74 in an hour and a half. Neither batsman gave a chance. The dismissal of Mr Wright, who was given out for handling the ball which had lodged in the top of his pad, furnished a curious incident in the day's play.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 June, page 14)

In this match at Bristol yesterday Gloucestershire threw plenty of spirit into an uphill game. Overnight the home side had begun their innings and scored 22 runs. Yesterday they were not dismissed until shortly after 4 o'clock, when they were 90 behind.

They played much more freely when they followed on, making 143 in two hours. Dr W G Grace and Mr Radcliffe scored 78 for the first wicket; but the feature of the day was the latter's 73, the first 50 of which were registered in half an hour. Mr Radcliffe hit 12 fours, three threes and five twos. Gloucestershire finished the day 53 ahead and five wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Monday 26 June, page 11)

After a well-fought match Nottinghamshire beat Gloucestershire at Bristol on Saturday by five wickets.

22 June: KENT v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3972.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 June, page 12)

There was a remarkably good attendance at Gravesend yesterday, when the Australians began the first of their matches with Kent, but the absence of some of the county's best cricketers rather lessened the interest in the game. The fixture is the second of the week at Gravesend. Messrs Blackham, M'Leod and Coningham were away from the Australian team, who, going in first, had much the better of the play.

But at one time the prospect promised a far different order of things, and when the first five Australians were disposed of in some 50 minutes for 37 runs the friends of the county were particularly happy. The run of ill-fortune for the visitors was broken by Mr Bruce, who had done very well earlier in the week at Lord's. Some idea of the rapid change he wrought in the game will be gleaned from the fact that in an hour he and Mr Gregory put on 103 for the sixth partnership. Mr Bruce was run out directly after luncheon at 140; his 77 (the best innings he has played during the tour) included one six (a drive out of the ground), nine fours, five threes and four twos, and occupied an hour and a quarter. Messrs Gregory and Walter Giffen added 32 for the ninth wicket, and finally the total was 194. Mr Gregory's 59 extended over an hour and three-quarters, and his chief hits were four fours, five threes and four twos. A Hearne bowled with great effect and his six wickets averaged only eight runs each.

Kent offered a very feeble resistance to the Australians; the best score was 20, and at the end of an hour and 40 minutes eight of the side were lost for 97. Thus to-day they want 18 to save the follow-on.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 June, page 14)

On an indifferent wicket at Gravesend yesterday the Kent batsmen offered only a feeble resistance to the bowling of Mr Trumble and Mr Turner, and the Australians won by an innings and a run. When play ceased on Thursday evening Kent, with two wickets to fall, wanted 18 runs to save the follow on. These they failed to get, and the visitors were able to claim a lead of 90 on the first innings.

Indeed, the game went so badly for the county that it was not found necessary to change to bowling, which Messrs Turner and Trumble shared throughout the second stage of the match. With the pitch rendered so treacherous by the rain, the Kent men never seemed likely to make a fight, and the only keen interest aroused came when there seemed a question as to whether the single-innings defeat would be averted. A Hearne and Mr Knowles made some good hits, but the end was reached soon after luncheon and an easy victory was secured by the Australians. Mr Turner's double analysis was 12 wickets for 84 runs, which brought his record for the week to 26 wickets for 200 runs.

22 June: LANCASHIRE v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3973.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 June, page 12)

Yesterday, at Old Trafford, Manchester, the hours available for cricket in this 12 aside match were occupied by the Lancastrian batting. At the outset there was little promise of any heavy scoring, for, in spite of some capital play by Ward and Sugg, and subsequently by Briggs and Mr Houldsworth, the figures were only 110 when the sixth wicket fell.

Afterwards, however, the Oxford bowling was well mastered. Baker and Mr Benton in the course of an hour and a half put on no fewer than 124 runs, and then Baker was out for an excellent 73. He had been in altogether for an hour and three-quarters, and his chief hits were 11 fours, four threes and four twos. Mr Benton was ninth to leave, at 282, after a stay of two hours and a quarter. His 68 included nine fours, four threes and four twos. Mr Kemble batted vigorously and made 29 of the last 50 runs. The freedom with which the later Lancastrians played rather spoilt the bowling records of the Oxford men. Rain fell at the close of the home innings.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 June, page 14)

Owing to rain no play was possible in this match yesterday at Old Trafford, Manchester. Thursday was occupied by the first innings of Lancashire, who made 296.

Day 3 (report from Monday 26 June, page 11)

On a pitch ruined by rain Oxford were twice got out on Saturday at Old Trafford, Manchester, with the result that Lancashire beat them by an innings and 113 runs. Oxford were dismissed the first time before luncheon, and when they followed on the turf grew more treacherous under the influence of the hot sun, and in an hour and three-quarters the side was got out for 70 runs, Mold taking seven wickets for 28 runs and bringing his record to 12 for 83. Mr Hill could not bat in consequence of an injured ankle.

22 June: MIDDLESEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3974.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 June, page 12)

The return match between these two great London teams attracted about 10,000 people to Lord's yesterday, when the first stage of the game progressed under such favourable conditions as were afforded by a sound, fast wicket and fine summer weather. Mr Webbe's injured hand prevented his playing, and under these circumstances the captaincy of Middlesex devolved on Mr O'Brien. Mr Shuter included Wood in the visiting side and also gave Ayres another trial. The present game garnered fresh interest from the facts that both counties are well up in the championship competition, and that Middlesex decisively beat Surrey in their meeting last month on the Oval.

Mr Shuter secured the advantage of batting first, and he sent in Lockwood and Abel. Rawlin and Hearne started the bowling very well and neither batsman could get the ball frequently away. Abel, however, made several fine strokes, but Lockwood was very uncertain and, at 20, in trying to pull he was out leg-before to Rawlin. Maurice Read and Abel found runs pretty difficult to obtain; but, after a while, the pace quickened and 70 were made in an hour. At 77 Abel's excellent innings was closed, Mr Henery throwing his wicket down from the long-field while an attempt was being made to secured a second run for a drive by Read. Mr Henery was loudly applauded and so also was Abel, who had shown quite his old form for 45, in which were seven fours and two threes.

Mr W W Read, who narrowly escaped being caught at slip, was out to a good catch by Mr Stoddart at mid-off at 112, after which followed a profitable stand by Mr Key and Maurice Read, who added 50 in 40 minutes for the fourth partnership. Maurice Read then played on, having obtained 75 in rather less than two hours by eight fours, six threes, four twos and singles. It was a very good innings, characterized by plenty of vigour. Middlesex, after getting rid of Henderson and Ayres, lost a good many runs through Mr Ford, at cover-point, missing Mr Shuter. Forty-nine were put on for the seventh wicket, and then a "yorker" from Mr Stoddart dismissed the Surrey captain.

Mr Key was eighth out at 222, being leg-before to Mr Stoddart. In an hour and three-quarters he scored eight fours, a three, four twos and ten singles. The last two wickets produced 65 runs. Brockwell batted with extreme care and was 40 minutes getting three, but afterwards improved his pace and was tenth out, bowled by Mr Ford. Surrey were in altogether four and a half hours, and their score of 287 included no fewer than 31 "extras," a large number of the byes coming from balls that after almost striking the wicket kept low and beat Mr M'Gregor.

Messrs O'Brien and Stoddart began the Middlesex innings to the bowling of Lockwood and Richardson. The immense crowd watched the cricket keenly and were very enthusiastic. Mr Stoddart made a fine drive and a leg hit to the boundary, and 17 runs were scored in 10 minutes. Mr O'Brien obtained four from a cut, but when Abel went on at 27 he was bowled in his first over. Mr M'Gregor joined Mr Stoddart, who should have been easily caught by Mr Read at point off Richardson. In the same over Mr M'Gregor was taken at long-slip and then stumps were drawn, Middlesex with eight wickets in hand being 252 behind.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 June, page 14)

Some wonderful batting by Messrs Stoddart and O'Brien was witnessed at Lord's yesterday

afternoon when, against the great Surrey bowlers and in an uphill fight, they scored 228 for the first wicket of the Middlesex second innings. Mr Stoddart has already obtained considerably more than 1,000 runs in first-class cricket this season. On the previous day Surrey had made 287 and had got out two of the home side for 5. In spite of the courageous batting of Mr Ford and Rawlin, the home first innings, continued at 11.35, was all over at a quarter past 1, leaving Surrey with a lead of 179.

Messrs Stoddart and O'Brien, however, played with a brilliancy which no bowling changes could check for two hours and a half. But at a quarter to five Mr Stoddart fell to a catch at third man, having scored 125 out of 228 by 11 fours, six threes, 18 twos and singles. The only error in a most brilliant innings was a possible chance to Richardson when the figures were 78. He had scored a great proportion of his runs by off-drives and cuts. Neither Mr Scott nor Mr Foley gave much trouble, and at 254 a catch at wicket sent back Mr O'Brien. He had been in three hours and had made 18 fours, three threes and five twos. Four for 254.

Surrey's troubles were not yet ended. In the next hour Mr Ford and Rawlin put on 91 runs. The former contributed ten fours, two threes and ten twos. At the close of the day the great Middlesex side had converted what at a quarter past 1 had seemed an almost hopeless position into a winning game, for with five wickets to fall they are 174 ahead.

Day 3 (report from Monday 26 June, page 11)

The great victory of Middlesex at Lord's on Saturday afternoon, when there were about 9,000 spectators, was the second substantial success gained by them over Surrey this season, their first win having been by seven wickets. It was a wonderful game to secure after following on with arrears of 179. Before stumps were drawn on Friday night Messrs Stoddart, O'Brien and Ford had by their fine batting placed Middlesex in an advantageous position, for they were 14 on with five wickets in hand. With the pitch affected by rain the balance of the innings yielded only 24 runs in 50 minutes.

Surrey found the admirable bowling of Rawlin and Hearne much too good for them, and in the end Middlesex won by 79 runs. The spectators were very enthusiastic and heartily cheered the side at the finish.

22 June: SUSSEX v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3975.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 June, page 12)

With the ground favourable for batsmen, Cambridge cannot be said to have fared so well as expected at Brighton yesterday, and it was only the fine stand for the last wicket that prevented their score from being particularly meagre.

Messrs Douglas and Jackson began excellently, making 62 in 40 minutes; but, after the dismissal of the captain, the side went out with such rapidity that, although Messrs Wells and Jones put on 36, nine men were lost for 156. This was largely the result of the bowling of Guttridge, who went on at 48 and secured five wickets while 70 runs were being scored. Mr Field and Mr Bromley-Davenport, however, played so successfully that 76 were added for the last partnership, the innings ending about 4 o'clock for 232.

Bean and Marlow scored 155 in two hours for the first Sussex wicket. Beyond a difficult chance to cover-point when his figures were 30 Bean made no error, and his 82 comprised 15 fours, a three, three twos and singles. Mr Hill was absent from the Cambridge eleven because of an injured ankle, and his place was filled by Mr Field.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 June, page 14)

Yesterday's play at the Hove Ground, Brighton, proved particularly interesting. On Thursday evening the county had made 170 for two wickets against Cambridge's score of 232. The rain, however, slightly affected the pitch, and the remaining batsmen were got out in two hours for 121, so that the Sussex advantage was not so large as at one time seemed probable. Marlow increased his figures to 82, in which were 12 fours, two threes and six twos.

Messrs Jackson and Douglas began the second venture of the visitors so well that the arrears of 59 were cleared off without loss of wicket. Mr Jackson was dismissed at 64, but Messrs Douglas and Latham made a stand and the 100 went up with only one man out. Subsequently Humphreys's lobs were pretty effective, and eventually Sussex were left with 157 to get to win. Mr Douglas scored his 71 in an hour and three-quarters, his chief hits being nine fours, a three and seven twos. Messrs Ranjitsinhji and Wells put on 55 while they were partners.

Day 3 (report from Monday 26 June, page 11)

The Hove Ground, Brighton, on Saturday was the scene of particularly interesting cricket. Sussex had been left to make 157 for victory, and had lost three batsmen for four runs. Six of the side were dismissed for 42, but a long partnership by Messrs Brann and Newham, who added 92, eventually enabled Sussex to win by two wickets.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/124/124181.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 23 June, page 12)

Leicestershire had much the best of yesterday's play in the match at Halifax, in spite of the absence of Mr de Trafford and Tomlin. Going in first, the visitors lost four men for 22 runs; but then Mr Hillyard played carefully and well. He and Finney added 67 in 70 minutes for the fifth wicket, and Hassell made 40 out of 59 put on in 50 minutes for the seventh. Hillyard was in altogether two hours and 35 minutes for his 41. When Yorkshire went in wickets fell rapidly . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 24 June, page 14)

This match was continued yesterday at Halifax. When rain stopped the game the record was as follows . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 26 June, page 11)

In consequence of heavy rain on Saturday this match at Halifax could not be played out, and it was left drawn . . .

Subjoined are the present positions of the first-class counties: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	6	5	1	0	4
Middlesex	8	6	2	0	4
Surrey	6	3	3	0	0
Lancashire	5	2	2	1	0
Notts	7	3	3	1	0
Kent	4	1	2	1	-1
Sussex	7	2	3	2	-1
Gloucestershire	7	2	4	1	-2
Somerset	4	0	4	0	-4

Saturday 24 June, page 14: LORD SHEFFIELD'S PROJECTED AUSTRALIAN TOUR

The Sussex Daily News announces with authority that Lord Sheffield has, much to his regret, given up his intended visit to Australia this autumn, having found it impossible to complete his arrangements for the cricket team in the time given him by the Australian authorities. He has come to a declaration at once so as not to stand in the way of those who were anxious to make other arrangements in the event of his being unable to go.

26 June: A SHREWSBURY'S ENGLAND XI v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3976.html)

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

The side got together to meet the Australians in the match played at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, for Arthur Shrewsbury's benefit was in every way worthy of its title. Some 20 years have elapsed since Shrewsbury was introduced into noteworthy cricket by appearing at Lord's in a trial of colts. An idea of the rapidity with which he rose to the front rank of professionals may be gathered from the fact that while he played first for his county in 1875 he was a year later found in the great test match between Gentlemen and Players. The consistent excellence of his graceful batting is familiar to all cricketers and his scoring feats have been many; but one striking record in his career is that no fewer than ten times has he made scores of 200 and upwards.

There were some 8,000 spectators of the batting triumphs of the Englishmen yesterday against the Australians' best team. The foundation of the heavy team was laid by Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart, who in an hour and a half put together 114 for the first wicket. Mr Stoddart once again played a fine innings, in which his driving powers were fully illustrated. He missed his 100 by only six runs, being [second] out, caught at point at 170; his stay had lasted rather more than two hours and he hit 12 fours, three threes and 13 twos. He gave one chance when his figures were 44.

The third partnership was also one of great product, for Gunn and Mr Palairret put on 111 in 90 minutes; Gunn played steadily, but the Oxford captain threw plenty to brilliancy into his batting, being fourth to leave at 298, caught at mid-on for 71; he hit eight fours, seven threes and four twos. In the last hour and a half the early attractiveness of the batting was not maintained.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 June, page 7)

Fortune has not been kind to the Australians in this match at Trent-bridge, Nottingham. The heavy rain on Monday night robbed them long-off the favourable conditions under which the Englishmen had scored so largely on the first day, and yesterday, with the wicket slow and helping the attack, they offered, with only few exceptions, a feeble defence to the Yorkshire bowlers, Peel and Wainwright, and their defeat, unless the weather saves them, now seems inevitable.

Yesterday's cricket afforded a marked contrast to that of Monday, and the weather, too, was dull and oppressive; but the interest in the match still seemed keen, and the attendance was estimated at from six to seven thousand. England, whose record at the adjournment on Monday night stood at 357 for seven wickets, completed their innings in an hour, in which time 59 runs were obtained, the total reaching 416 as the result of rather over six hours' batting. Storer stayed with Shrewsbury while 40 were added for the tenth partnership, and the great Notts professional, for whose benefit the game is being played, remained not out 52. His innings lasted two and a half hours and contained five fours, three threes and two twos.

The Australians quite failed on the slow and difficult pitch, and were all out in two hours and a quarter for 120 runs. The only brightness in this feeble display came from the partnerships of the second and eighth wickets; Messrs Bannerman and Giffen put on 26 and Messrs M'Leod and Gregory 34. Peel bowled with great success, taking six wickets for 65 runs.

The Colonials when they followed on against the overwhelming deficit of 296 lost three good men for 20. Then Mr Bruce brought back some life to the batting by scoring 46 out of 56 in 35 minutes; He made a square leg hit for six, seven fours, a three, two twos and five singles. Subsequently Mr Gregory ran up 49 out of 60 in a little over half an hour. The Australians are now 160 behind with three wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 June, page 12)

Only a little play was needed to bring this match to a close at Trent-bridge yesterday, and the England team secured the victory by an innings and 153 runs. This is the most severe of the six losses sustained by the present Australian side. Mr Gregory, who made the highest score for the visitors, obtained six fours, two threes and seven twos. Peel's bowling record was 11 wickets for 110 runs.

26 June: KENT v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3977.html)

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

Under favourable conditions the return match between Kent and Lancashire was begun yesterday at Tonbridge, the fixture furnishing the opening to the Week at this town. Kent were without several of their best men, notably Mr W H Patterson and Walter Hearne, the latter of whom did so much towards winning the first game this season with Lancashire.

The best feature of the Kent innings, which took place on a slow but improving wicket, was the fine stand by the Rev W Rashleigh and George Hearne, who came together when seven men were lost for 85, and put on 61 runs in 50 minutes. Briggs and Mold bowled remarkably well.

Lancashire were batting the rest of the day and gained a considerable advantage. A Ward and Mr M'Laren made 79 for the first wicket, the latter, who was second out at 105, hitting eight fours.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 June, page 7)

Owing to rain no play was possible at Tonbridge yesterday. The score on Monday was – Kent, 152; Lancashire, 117 for three wickets.

After luncheon the crowd that had assembled became very disorderly, and went on the wicket and pulled up the stumps. These incidents occurred while it was raining. A fresh pitch may be selected to-day on which to finish the match.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 June, page 12)

On a bowler's wicket at Tonbridge yesterday, Kent for the second time this season beat Lancashire, the victory in the present instance being by 67 runs. After the comparatively slow progress that had been made with the game on Monday and the blank two-day, the result came somewhat as a surprise.

Lancashire's last seven wickets in the first innings fell in 50 minutes for 40 runs, and Kent, who were only five behind, started so badly that six of their men were out for 62. It was at this stage that Martin arrived, and he batted so successfully that he remained until 176. He was tenth to leave for 65, made in an hour and three-quarters by eight fours, two threes, six twos and singles.

Kent got Lancashire out a second time in two hours and won the match by 67 runs. Martin, who has not been bowling with much effect this season, did wonderfully well, getting in all ten wickets for 79 runs.

26 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3978.html)

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

The Cambridge eleven, as chosen to play against Oxford, were batting the whole of cricketing hours at Lord's yesterday, and between five minutes past 12 and 7 o'clock put together, for the loss of only eight wickets, the largest score yet made at headquarters this season – namely, 466 runs. It was a batting feat of no small merit against the good M.C.C. side, in which were such excellent bowlers as J T Hearne, Rawlin and Shacklock, apart from Phillips and Mr Hedley; but the excellence was a little tarnished by the mistakes at wicket, where Board, usually so skilful, made some blunders, and altogether had a bad day, for he was twice struck in the face by the ball, the blow in the first instance being sufficiently severe to disturb his nerve.

Among the triumphs that by Mr J Douglas was the greatest. He went in first with his captain, who stayed until the 100 had been reached, and was third to leave, taken at deep slip for 102, which were contributed to the 185 in rather less than three hours by 13 fours, seven threes, three twos and singles. His cutting and driving were equally good and he made many fine strokes to leg. The blemishes in his play occurred when his figures were 13, 22 and 91, at which points he might have been caught respectively by the wicket-keeper, third man and short-slip. Mr Ranjitsinhji played a superb innings of 54 and his fine forward cricket was warmly applauded; he scarcely made a bad stroke until he reached 50, but then he seemed to forsake his regular game and, going in for hitting, soon fell to extra-slip, his stay having lasted at hour and 20 minutes. Mr Hill played very well and drove brilliantly; and he and Mr Ranjitsinhji made one of the longest stands of the day, adding 72 in about an hour for the fourth wicket.

Mr Latham was not in his best form; but for fine hitting Mr Streatfeild carried off chief honours. He went in at 257, when four men were out, and was dismissed seventh, well caught at wicket, at 357, having contributed 64 to the 100 added in the hour of his stay. In the last 49 minutes of the day Messrs Perkins and Jones put on 77 runs, and were still not out at the drawing of stumps. The former, who hit 18 off an over from Rawlin, had been missed at wicket before he had scored. There was a very good attendance; but after a bright morning the weather became dull and the atmosphere heavy.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 June, page 7)

Yesterday's hours for play at Lord's were considerably lessened by the bad weather. Cambridge had to finish their innings, which on Monday had realized 466 for the loss of eight batsmen, on a pitch rendered slow by the early morning rain. The balance yielded 37 runs in 25 minutes, bringing the total to 503, the highest recorded at Lord's this season.

Messrs Perkins and Jones put on 95 in less than an hour for the ninth partnership. Mr Perkins was the last out, caught at extra slip, for a vigorous 90, which had occupied him an hour and three-quarters. The early part of his innings was very indifferent and he ought to have been out before he had scored; however, from about 30 he played a far better game, and both on Monday evening and yesterday morning he made many fine hits, among which were 15 fours, two threes and seven twos. Board, after the blows he received on Monday, did not continue to keep wicket.

Marylebone went in at 12.20 and the interruptions by rain began at 1.40. The weather lengthened the luncheon interval and there was no cricket after five minutes past 4. Before the rain came, however, Cambridge got four men out for 83, and subsequently they captured another. Mr Wright played very cautiously and was fifth to leave at 86. A noteworthy incident of the game was the dextrous catch in the long field by which Mr Douglas secured Lord Hawke, the ball being taken close to the ground while the fieldsman was running. Stumps were drawn at 5.30.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 June, page 12)

Bright and fresh weather favoured the closing stage of this match at Lord's yesterday. Little interest remained in the game, for M.C.C. had left off in such a bad position on the second day that, with little prospect of a soft and false pitch, they could have held little hope of saving the match. Although the wicket improved after the early morning's play, by half-past 4 the M.C.C. were beaten by an innings and 155 runs.

In the first three-quarters of an hour the five Marylebone wickets in the opening innings fell for 46 runs. The second innings extended over three hours, and its best feature was the batting of Messrs O'Brien and Hedley, who made 102 runs between them, the former hitting six fours, four threes and six twos. The decisive victory of the Light Blues and the general excellence of their cricket will be highly gratifying to Cambridge men.

26 June: SUSSEX v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3979.html)

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

After the rain the wicket rather helped the bowlers yesterday at Brighton, and Oxford, who had first innings, played a very disappointing game. Indeed, in two hours and a quarter, the side was out for 134. Mr Phillips's detention at Oxford by an examination prevented his reaching the ground in time to bat. It will be noted, too, that Mr L C H Palairret, the captain, was away.

When Sussex went in the best cricket was shown by Mr Newham, who made 60 in an hour and a half, hitting eight fours and seven twos.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 June, page 7)

Sussex greatly improved their position in this match at the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday. The play, however, was limited because of the rain to an hour and 20 minutes late in the afternoon.

Overnight Sussex, going in against 134, had scored 215 for five wickets. Mr Heasman and Guttridge put on 62 in 26 minutes, and in the last half hour Tate and Hilton added 43. Mr Heasman hit nine fours, a three answered six twos, and Tate six fours.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 June, page 12)

The Oxford eleven were seen to far greater advantage at Brighton yesterday than on either of the preceding days. On a much improved wicket they strove hard to save the match, and their second innings extended over three hours and three-quarters.

Mr Fry played brilliantly, making 50 in an hour and hitting ten fours and a two. He and Mr Leveson-Gower added 60 while they were together, and another good partnership was that between Messrs Bathurst and Wood, who put on 64 runs for the sixth wicket. The Oxford deficit was cleared off with four batsmen in hand. Sussex eventually won by ten wickets. It will be noticed that they declared their first innings closed.

26 June: WARWICKSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128149.html)

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

At Birmingham yesterday the Warwickshire team, after starting badly and losing three wickets for 17 runs, fared well in their match with Yorkshire. Diver and Mr Bainbridge added 50 for the fourth wicket, and a feature of the innings came when Pallett and Whitehead put on 74 for the last.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 28 June, page 7)

At Birmingham yesterday Warwickshire had all the best of the play. The early cricket was characterized by the remarkable bowling of Whitehead, who when he was put on a second time dismissed eight of the visitors in 11 overs for 19 runs; his full analysis was eight for 49. A sum of L10 was collected for him on the ground.

Yorkshire followed on 155 behind and, up to a certain point, fared pretty well. Tunnicliffe and Brown added 62 for the third wicket, and the 100 went up with only three men out. And then the bowlers again carried all before them, and at the finish Yorkshire, with only two wickets to fall, were five runs ahead. Tunnicliffe's 51 included a six, seven fours, three threes and two twos.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 29 June, page 12)

Yesterday, at Birmingham, this match ended in a victory for Warwickshire by nine wickets; but it must not be forgotten that Yorkshire were without their two great bowlers, Peel and Wainwright. Whitehead took ten wickets in the double innings for 108 runs.

Tuesday 27 June, page 8: Cricketers will learn with regret that George Lohmann, of the Surrey Eleven, is again seriously ill. He only recently arrived from the Cape and was last week at Lord's, apparently in much improved health.

29 June: KENT v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3980.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 June, page 11)

Yesterday's play in this match at Tonbridge proved favourable for Kent, who were batting from ten minutes past 12 until half-past 5, when Somerset went in and lost two wickets.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 July, page 13)

Between 4,000 and 5,000 people witnessed Somerset's uphill fight at Tonbridge yesterday, when the weather was very fine and the turf fast and true. Somerset lost nine wickets for 95, but Tyler and the Rev A P Wickham added 70 runs in 40 minutes for the tenth.

Following on with arrears of 129, the visitors with their eighth man left had made only 74. In an hour and ten minutes the Rev G R Wood and Mr Dunlop scored 113 runs for the ninth partnership, and eventually Kent were left with 73 to get to win. The Rev G R Wood, an old Oxford cricketer, played for Somerset in place of Mr Hewett, who withdrew from the game because of a family bereavement.

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

Kent secured their second victory of the week at Tonbridge on Saturday morning, when they decisively beat Somerset. The position of affairs on Friday night had promised a substantial success for the home county. After the dismissal of Mr Weigall the brothers Hearne hit off the runs, only 58 of which remained to be made on Saturday, and Kent won by eight wickets.

29 June: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v OXFORD UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3981.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 June, page 11)

At Lord's yesterday, several of the Oxford batsmen were seen to considerable advantage in this match. The brothers Palairet put of 56 for the first wicket, and Mr R C N Palairet and Mr Fry added 82 in an hour and a half for the third. The former was the fourth to leave, caught at extra slip at 138 for 52, an excellent innings, included in which were six fours and three threes. Mr H Leveson-Gower, who was last year's captain at Winchester, played the best cricket subsequently and, going in third wicket down at 138, took out his bat. Mr Bathurst helped him to add 62 for the sixth partnership.

Marylebone did well in the last 90 minutes of the day, making 145 for the loss of only four men. Lord Hawke, who was third to leave, caught at slip, hit seven fours, two threes and seven twos. After an enjoyable day's play the score was as follows . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 July, page 13)

After a thoroughly good day's play at Lord's yesterday this match ended, at 7 o'clock last evening, in a victory for Marylebone by eight wickets. In the morning the club raised their overnight score of 145 for four to 355 for nine, and then at luncheon time declared their innings closed. Mr Wright made 94 in rather less than two hours by 18 fours, two threes, two twos and singles.

Oxford, who were 133 behind, lost seven men for 119; but Mr Bathurst, aided by Mr Brain, then added 64, and the former finally took out his bat for 45. Hearne was credited with the dismissal of seven batsmen for 48 runs. Marylebone got the 62 necessary runs in 40 minutes at the cost of two wickets.

29 June: NORTH v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3982.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 June, page 11)

The Englishmen had all the best of the day's cricket with the Australians at Manchester yesterday, and with four men out the Australians want 106 to avert the follow-on.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 July, page 13)

The Australians were chiefly indebted to Messrs Trott and Gregory for the capital game they played against the North at Manchester yesterday.

On Thursday evening, with four men out for 86 against a score of 271, they had all the worst of the match; but Messrs Trott and Gregory added 111 in the 70 minutes of their partnership. Both men played excellently. Mr Trott scored his 96 in two hours by 14 fours, two threes, nine twos and singles, while Mr Gregory hit ten fours, three threes and 13 twos. After luncheon the last four wickets fell in a quarter of an hour for five runs. The Englishmen went in a second time . . .

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

The Australians gained a great victory on Saturday at Old Trafford, Manchester, when, going in to get 275 against a strong bowling side, they made the runs ten minutes before the time fixed for the drawing of stumps. Friday evening had left the game in a pretty even position, as the North, with three wickets to fall in the second innings, were 187 runs on. During the morning 87 were obtained by the eighth, ninth and tenth wickets in 75 minutes, while the full innings occupied four hours and a quarter and produced 259.

Although the wicket remained hard and true, the Australians had a severe task before them to get 275 with a little over four hours left for play. Mr Lyons exhibited brilliant driving powers, and with Mr Bannerman made 102 in 70 minutes for the first wicket. He was dismissed for 75, secured in his best form and without a mistake by ten fours, two threes, seven twos and singles.

When the fifth wicket went down 102 runs were still required with only 85 minutes to play. Of course the game had changed favourably for the North; but Messrs Gregory and Graham batted so well and with so much freedom that, although the fielding was keen and six bowlers were put on, their 70 minutes' partnership yielded 94 runs. Both were then quickly out, after which Messrs M'Leod and Trumble got the last few runs and won the match for the Australians by three wickets.

29 June: SURREY v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3983.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 June, page 11)

Fine batting by the Surrey eleven was the characteristic of yesterday's cricket on the Oval in the return match between Surrey and Yorkshire, and of this there were some 7,000 spectators. For once a good wicket has to be recorded on the Surrey ground, and the home side made the most of the advantage of getting the first batting on it.

In the general excellence of yesterday's game a great innings of 100 by Mr Key stood out prominently. From the time he went in Mr Key batted brilliantly and with much freedom, and he got his 100 out of 152 added during his stay of only two hours; he gave no chance and made 13 fours, three threes and eight twos. The best time for the spectators was certainly during Mr Key's presence. Late in the innings Lockwood scored 61 in an hour by very clean hitting, and eventually Surrey's total reached 356 as the result of five and a half hours' play. The Yorkshiremen fielded splendidly until the very last thing, when three catches from Wood and Sharpe were missed. Richardson is absent from the Surrey team owing to an injury.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 July, page 13)

Surrey gained a brilliant victory over Yorkshire at the Oval yesterday. Thursday's cricket left the home side in a fine winning position, and Yorkshire, although playing up well in the second innings, never recovered from their bad start.

Of course, after Surrey's 356 no one thought of Yorkshire's success; but many expected to see their good batting side make some capital scores, especially as the wicket remained hard and true. Thus the feeble form of the visitors before luncheon yesterday was very disappointing. Five wickets fell for 15 runs, and in spite of a subsequent improvement the innings lasted only a little over two hours, producing 125.

In the afternoon the 6,000 spectators saw far better cricket. Brown hit ten fours, three threes and four twos in an excellent 64, while an equally good innings was that by Wainwright, who made 11 fours, two threes and a two. This time Yorkshire were in four hours. Lockwood in the double innings took 11 wickets for 120 runs. Surrey won by ten wickets just before 7 o'clock.

29 June: SCOTLAND v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/99/99680.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 30 June, page 11)

Dr Grace's Gloucestershire eleven visited Edinburgh yesterday and began a match against a team representing Scotland, at Raeburn-place. The home side, who had first innings, found the bowling of Mr Ferris much too good for them, and they were out by half-past 3. Mr Ferris's seven wickets averaged a fraction over six runs each. The visitors were batting during the rest of the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 1 July, page 13)

Dr W G Grace's team gained a substantial victory over the Scottish eleven at Raeburn-place, Edinburgh, yesterday, winning by seven wickets. Mr Ferris's bowling was one of the features of the match, for he took 14 wickets at the small cost of 88 runs.

THE COUNTIES

The following are the present positions of the counties:

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Middlesex	8	6	2	0	4
Yorkshire	7	5	2	0	3
Kent	6	3	2	1	1
Surrey	7	4	3	0	1
Notts	7	3	3	1	0
Lancashire	6	2	3	1	-1
Sussex	7	2	3	2	-1
Gloucestershire	7	2	4	1	-2
Somerset	5	0	5	0	-5

3 July: OXFORD UNIVERSITY v CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3985.html)

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

The cricket in the University match at Lord's yesterday was very disappointing from a batsman's point of view. There was plenty of splendid fielding; and the bowling of Mr Berkeley for Oxford and that of Mr Wells for Cambridge were very striking incidents in the game; but, with trifling exceptions, the batting ruled feeble.

Cambridge had done by far the better in their trial matches; they had in Mr Wells a particularly good bowler and, even apart from him, their attack seemed stronger. Oxford's ill-success in the preliminary games was attributed in some way to their not having always the command of their best men. Under the circumstances Cambridge seemed to merit the confidence with which cricketers looked for their success; they were playing eight of last year's eleven, and the new men comprised Messrs Ranjitsinhji, Jones and Perkins. The fresh members of the Oxford team consisted of Messrs Mordaunt, H D G Leveson-Gower, Rice, R C N Palaret and Bathurst.

On a wicket that never played well the Light Blues secured a considerable advantage. The moderate batting was, of course, in a great measure due to the condition of the turf, of which the bowlers took full advantage, and were supported by the keen fielding of both sides. When it was first known that Cambridge had won the toss the friends of the Light Blues were particularly hopeful, and their prospects were brightened by the good start of Messrs Douglas and Jackson. After the dismissal of these players Messrs Streatfeild and Perkins made a few fine hits, but neither stayed very long, and from the time Mr Berkeley went on at the Nursery end things went badly for Cambridge.

Good points in the Oxford innings were even less, and apart from Mr L C H Palaret, the captain, the defence was feeble in the extreme. No one played Mr Wells with any great precision, and the latter bowled from the pavilion end throughout the Oxford batting. When Oxford's last man went in an occurrence unworthy of the cricket field, and of all places Lord's Ground during the University match, was witnessed. The Dark Blues, seeing that they were likely to be in a substantial minority on the first innings, thought a follow-on, with the prospect of the bad wicket getting worse every hour, most beneficial, and the last batsman seemed inclined purposely to lose his wicket. Mr Wells, who was bowling, grasped the meaning quickly, and first bowled four no-balls and then, after two ineffectual attempts, four wides. Thus were Oxford prevented from following on.

These attempts to get the better of the wicket, in whatever way legitimate, seemed quite foreign to the spirit of the game, and cricket is not likely to be benefited by the practice of such tactics. The incidents of last evening may make more public the suggestion that the law regarding the follow-on should be amended so that the side which is 80 or more runs ahead shall have the option of declaring whether there shall be a follow-on.

Beautiful summer weather prevailed, and the scenes during the intervals and promenades possessed the characteristic brilliancy of an Oxford v Cambridge day at Lord's. The attendance fell little short of 20,000; the pavilion in the afternoon was crowded and every seat was taken on the grand stand, where the Duke of Buccleuch and Lord Sefton had private boxes. Among the many members present were the Earl of Dartmouth, the Marylebone president, Viscount Cobham, Lord Darnley,

Lord Bathurst, Lord Londesborough and Price Albert of Schleswig-Holstein.

Mr Jackson won the toss and opened the Cambridge innings with Mr Douglas. Mr Berkeley led the Oxford bowling from the pavilion end with his field as follows: - Brain, wicket; Fry, point; R Palairet, short slip; L C H Palairet, extra slip; Mordaunt, third man; Wood, mid-off; Wilson, mid-on; Rice, long-off; Bathurst, extra mid-off; Leveson-Gower, cover-point. The first stroke of the match was a three to leg by Mr Douglas.

Mr Wood's lob bowling was tried at the nursery end with the field thus: - Brain, wicket; R Palairet, point; Leveson-Gower, cover-point; Bathurst, sharp short-leg; Rice, square-leg; Wilson, mid-off; L Palairet, deep mid-on; Berkeley, mid-on; Fry, long-on; Mordaunt, long-off. From the lobs Mr Douglas was nearly bowled by a full pitch; but the batsmen settled down quickly and played both bowlers with easy precision; Mr Berkeley kept a capital length and required the most careful attention from the batsmen. Mr Douglas ran in to the lobs and twice got them away to the leg boundary. Oxford fielded up closely; but the rate of scoring was fast – 40 in 25 minutes and 50 in 35 minutes were events that were well marked by the cheers from the Cambridge partisans.

The Oxford attack had been already changed; Mr Berkeley crossed over and Mr Wilson's fast bowling was tried at the pavilion end. The latter nearly got out Mr Douglas with a yorker; but the batsmen seemed thoroughly set when the calm cricket was ruffled by a wonderful catch at mid-off, where Mr Bathurst leant down and caught Mr Douglas from a hard drive. Everyone seemed to applaud this remarkable piece of fielding. Mr Douglas had made a capital 25 out of the 56 recorded.

Mr Latham's arrival was succeeded by some quiet play. The Cambridge captain made most of the runs, and with the score rising steadily the lob-bowler came on again at 70, and at 73 Mr Bathurst was tried at the other end. Mr Latham was not quite comfortable with the bowling, but Mr Jackson scored easily from both sides. Mr Wood varied his lobs in a remarkable way, and at last, to the surprise of a good many of the spectators, he got Mr Jackson, who had been playing him so well; the Cambridge captain was caught and bowled from a full pitch. Two for 80.

Mr Ranjitsinhji was enthusiastically cheered as he made his way in. He started playing the lobs carefully, but getting to the other end he sent a bad ball from Mr Bathurst to the square-leg boundary. Subsequently the play again became quiet. The bowling troubled both men, who in no way appreciated the lobs. However, Mr Palairet thought a chance desirable, and at 98 Mr Berkeley went on for Mr Wood and immediately bowled Mr Ranjitsinhji; it was his first ball, which was a fine length and just struck the top of the wicket.

It continued a very good over from Mr Berkeley, and the last four balls were not at all well played by Mr Hill, who had joined Mr Latham. The latter, with a drive for two, which Mr Rice by fine fielding prevented from being a four, sent the total into three figures at 1.40, a fact that was duly noted by the spectators' applause. With the bowling very true and the fielding close runs came at a very slow rate; indeed, the batting was weak and each man was several times beaten. Mr Latham was in an hour for 17 runs, and the single after the 100 took ten minutes to make. Mr Fry now went on, and in his second over he beat Mr Hill with a yorker; the latter had been in a quarter of an hour for a single. Another misfortune befell the Light Blues in the last over before luncheon through Mr Latham's giving extra-slip an easy catch. It was a poor innings, devoid of any excellence whatever, although an hour and ten minutes were taken by the batsman to score his 21. The interval was reached with half the Cambridge side out for 110. Since Mr Jackson went the defence had been quite unworthy of the reputation Cambridge had secured by their play in the trial matches.

Cricket was resumed at five minutes to 3, Messrs Streatfeild and Wells being the batsmen and Messrs Berkeley and Fry the bowlers. The first few minutes were bright, and in the 17 quickly added there was a good four on the leg side to each batsman; but at 127 Cambridge lost their sixth man in Mr Wells, who was out to a good catch at wicket.

Messrs Perkins and Streatfeild were now partners, and Cambridge must have relied on these batsmen for an improvement in their affairs. But the bowling was too good to be treated lightly and there were no contributions of note. Things were enlivened by Mr Perkins sending a full pitch from Mr Fry among the spectators near the tennis-court, and when Mr Wood was tried nine runs were made in the over. Mr Bathurst at once went on for Mr Wood. Mr Berkeley continued to bowl well, and after nearly dismissing Mr Perkins (the ball just escaped the off stump and went for four byes), he got Mr Streatfeild caught at wicket. Seven for 162.

Mr Gay survived an appeal for leg-before and was bowled in the next over; and Mr Berkeley also sent back Mr Jones at 174. The last partnership produced eight runs, and then the catching of Mr Perkins at wicket closed the innings at 4 o'clock. Cambridge had been batting three hours for 182 runs. Mr Berkeley's bowling had been a feature of the cricket and his five wickets averaged seven runs each; the fielding throughout had been unerring and Mr Brain had kept wicket very well.

Oxford started their innings at half-past 4, the interval being extended by the delay caused by an encroachment of the spectators at the nursery boundaries. The brothers Palairet were the first batsmen, while Mr Wells began the bowling with his field thus: - Gay, wicket; Ranjitsinhji, slip; Douglas, long-on; Jackson, cover-point; Latham, point; Perkins, third man; Streatfeild, extra slip; Jones, extra mid-off; Hill, mid-off; and Bromley-Davenport, mid-on. Mr Jackson bowled from the nursery end, the field being as follows: - Gay, wicket; Wells, cover-point; Latham, point; Douglas, long-slip; Ranjitsinhji, extra slip; Jones, short slip; Hill, third man; Bromley-Davenport, mid-on; Perkins, long-off; and Streatfeild, mid-off.

Mr R C N Palairet started well with a fine off-drive to the boundary, but in the second over he was caught at mid-off, the first wicket falling at six. Mr Rice stayed a little time, during which his captain made a couple of good fours – a cut and a drive; but at 29 the second Oxford wicket fell, Mr Ranjitsinhji bringing off a fine catch at extra slip, the ball going fast and wide towards the fieldsman. Mr Fry's stay was brief; he never seemed comfortable with the bowling of Mr Wells, and at 38, in playing back, the ball beat him and went into the wicket. Another bowling triumph for Cambridge came quickly in the dismissal of Mr Mordaunt, who missed a straight ball that he endeavoured to hit.

Four for 44 savoured of disaster for Oxford. Mr Leveson-Gower, last year's captain at Winchester, was next on the scene; and for a time the best play was with the fieldsmen. Mr Perkins rather marred this excellence by missing the ball at third man and giving two runs to Mr Leveson-Gower. The Dark Blue captain was playing steadily and after an hour the 50 went up; but with eight runs added he was caught at wicket for 32, made in an hour and ten minutes. Half the side had now been disposed of. Mr Wells had been bowling excellently and Mr Bromley-Davenport, who had displaced Mr Jackson at 56, was also difficult to hit.

There was little incident of note in the play; ten runs were added in 20 minutes, and then Mr Leveson-Gower was out leg-before, while at 69 a good catch at extra-slip got rid of Mr Wood. Seven men were now dismissed. With Messrs Brain and Bathurst together the batting became very dull. In 25 minutes only six runs were scored. The bowling was true, but as no other wicket fell Mr

Jackson put on Mr Streatfeild at 75 in place of Mr Bromley-Davenport, and the change was quickly effective, as, after the partnership had lasted half an hour and yielded only seven runs, Mr Bathurst, who had been in 50 minutes, was caught at wicket for six. Eight for 76. Mr Berkeley, who came next, got two and four by a drive and a snick. Nineteen runs were put on in a quarter of an hour before Mr Berkeley skied the ball to mid-off. Nine for 95.

Mr Wilson was last man in, Oxford requiring eight runs to save the follow-on. From the manner of the next few minutes play, Oxford evidently did not wish at this stage to save the follow-on, thinking to benefit by having next innings on the wicket; and Mr Wells, inferring this from the conversation of the batsmen, deliberately bowled four no-balls, and after a consultation with his captain he attempted to bowl two slow wides. Both of these the batsman went across and covered, and, finding these attempts ineffectual to give Oxford sufficient runs for preventing the end they had in view, Mr Wells bowled a fast ball wide on the leg side, which went to the boundary. The crowd showed their disapproval of these incidents in a marked manner and by cries of "Play the game."

Of course Cambridge had now made sure of having the third innings on a wicket that seemed likely to get worse as the game progressed, but it was an unseemly occurrence. Oxford played a by no means novel part very clumsily or they might have obtained their object in a way not generally apparent. The whole business created a feeling akin to disgust amongst a large body of the spectators. Mr Wilson was soon stumped, and the innings closed on the stroke of 7 o'clock for 106, or 76 behind. Mr Wells had bowled admirably for two hours and a half, and his five wickets cost only 39 runs. Mr Gay kept wicket in fine style and the fielding was excellent. To-day, at 11.30, Cambridge will begin their second innings.

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

The Oxford Eleven was beaten at Lord's last evening by 266 runs, a result not wholly unmerited, their batting yesterday being remarkably feeble. Although the company must have numbered about 20,000, there was comparatively little cheering, and the exciting scenes which usually terminate the University meeting at Lord's were for once absent. Even Cambridge men seemed to lose their ardour in view of the feeble fight of the Dark Blues.

Yesterday's dullness was relieved during the first hour of the day, and in the hour following luncheon, by the batting of four Light Blues. The captain's brilliant 57 was followed by the steadier, yet excellent defence of Mr Latham, and then, after the seventh wicket fell for a moderate score, came the fine, vigorous play of Messrs Perkins and Gay, who in 35 minutes scored 71 runs.

Of course few expected Oxford to make 31 in the last innings, but everyone must have imagined that they would put together a fair total. Disasters began early and the series remained unbroken to the end. Mr Fry showed great patience, but the Oxford men made no attempt to force the play; and Cambridge, bowling and fielding well, steadily got them out. Mr Jackson and Mr Wells bowled for the first hour and a half of the innings, and then left Messrs Streatfeild and Bromley-Davenport to finish the Dark Blue batsmen. The pitch afforded the attack assistance all day and the bowlers made the most of their opportunities, yet the turf was not so bad as to account for the small scores. The secret was rather in the bad batting. To the last the fielding on both sides maintained its high standard, and this is most likely the merit by which the University game of 1893 will be best remembered.

That the best side won is beyond question, and Mr F S Jackson, who well exhibited his powers as an all-round cricketer, had the satisfaction of avenging the defeat of his side in the great match of last year. The 20 Oxford wickets were taken in four hours and a half at an average of 8.5 runs each, while Cambridge made 436 runs in six hours and 20 minutes, the average of their 20 wickets being 21.8. The follow-on incident of Monday night was considerably discussed, and the feeling seemed to prevail that it would hasten the amendment of the law.

The third innings of the match was begun at 11.35 by Cambridge, who held a lead of 76. The original order was adhered to. Messrs Jackson and Douglas started to the bowling of Messrs Berkeley and Wilson, the former going on at the nursery wicket, where he had been so effective on the preceding day. The pitch seemed to have improved by the rolling and the ball came along truly. Mr Jackson made two fine cuts and a leg hit for four each; but Mr Douglas, having secured four by a pretty late cut, had his off stump bowled out of the ground at 23.

Mr Latham, who followed in, played in much better form than on Monday – indeed, in a way far more worthy of his reputation of 1892, although even now he left most of the scoring to his captain. And in Mr Jackson's hands the Cambridge affairs rapidly prospered. He played splendidly and his strokes were mostly fours. Mr Latham twice cut Mr Berkeley late to the boundary. With runs coming so quickly, the Oxford captain changed his bowling at both ends, putting on Messrs Fry and Wood. The vigour of Mr Jackson's batting will be gathered from the fact that he made 40 out of 53 in 50 minutes, and his fine hitting was continued; the lobs were freely punished by him, and he completed his 50 in an hour, when the score was only 67. Then he made four from a bad stroke through the slips; but at 75 Mr Berkeley resumed bowling and, with a fine ball, at once dismissed him. His brilliant 57 out of 75 included ten fours.

Mr Ranjitsinhji failed, for, after staying until 91, he was caught from a hard hit to mid-off. Mr Latham continued his excellent defence, and with a beautiful cut for four sent up the 100 at five minutes past 1. A noteworthy incident in the cricket was some fine fielding by Mr L C H Palaret at mid-on, after which two other Cambridge men were quickly out, Mr Brain by good catches at the wicket getting rid of Messrs Hill and Streatfeild. The latter fell to Mr Wilson, who had gone on at the nursery end.

Five for 120 presented a great contrast to the state of things that had previously existed. Mr Wells was Mr Latham's next partner. The latter made some beautiful cuts and rives and was loudly cheered when he reached his 50, after a stay of an hour and a half. Mr Wells played carefully and scored three by a good stroke in front of cover-point. The batting maintained its precision, so Mr Palaret put on Messrs Fry and Berkeley. These tactics were successful, as at 143 the latter in his second over got rid of Mr Latham, whom Mr Bathurst cleverly caught at mid-off, taking the ball low down while running in. Mr Latham had played a remarkably good innings of 54, which extended over an hour and three-quarters, and included nine fours, a three and three twos.

Mr Wells soon afterwards skied the ball to cover-point and, with seven men lost for 147, Messrs Perkins and Gay became partners. The latter did not play Mr Fry's bowling very well; but no further mishap occurred before luncheon, when the record stood at 153. During the morning the fielding had, with few exceptions, been very brilliant.

The game was renewed at five minutes to 3, Messrs Berkeley and Bathurst bowling. Runs came at a brisk rate and, among other hits, Mr Gay obtained four by a drive and Mr Perkins made two cuts for four each. The former then aroused the enthusiasm of the spectators by driving a ball from Mr Bathurst on to the canvas of the members' enclosure on the left of the pavilion. Mr Wood's lobs

were again tried, but without effect, and, after some fine fielding by Mr Bathurst at short-leg, the 200 was reached at a quarter past 3. Fifty runs had been added in 20 minutes after luncheon, and with the play still bright and attractive Mr Palairet put on Messrs Wilson and Leveson-Gower. The result was that the former bowled Mr Perkins at 224. It had been a very productive partnership; since the interval 71 runs had been put on in half an hour, and the fine hitting had been well appreciated by the spectators. Altogether the eighth wicket realized 77, 37 of which were scored by Mr Perkins.

When Mr Jones came in Mr Leveson-Gower at once gave way to Mr Bathurst, who bowled Mr Gay at 2.30, sending one of the bails about 25 yards beyond the wicket. Mr Bromley-Davenport, the last man, appeared, and there were various good hits, Mr Jones showing capital form. But after the batsmen had narrowly escaped a run out, Mr Berkeley, who had gone on for Mr Bathurst, bowled Mr Bromley-Davenport, and the innings closed at ten minutes to 4 for 254. Since luncheon the last three wickets had added 101 runs in 55 minutes, and the full innings had occupied three hours and 20 minutes. Mr Berkeley had again been the most successful of the bowlers, although in his instance his four wickets averaged 14 runs each.

The weather had grown dull and the wind blew rather freshly from the east when Oxford went in for the last innings, 331 being required to secure them a victory. This formidable task was begun at 4.20, the brothers Palairet facing the bowling of Messrs Wells and Jackson. The first incident of note proved to be a good piece of fielding by Mr Wells at cover-point which turned what seemed to be an easy single into a very dangerous run, and Mr R C N Palairet only just reached home before Mr Jackson put the wicket down. That batsman, however, was lbw to Mr Wells when only three runs were recorded. With Mr Rice on the scene the play ruled quiet and neither player seemed able to get the ball away. Indeed, only four runs were added in ten minutes and then a very good ball from Mr Jackson bowled Mr Palairet – middle stump. Two for seven.

Mr Fry came next, and soon after his arrival Mr Rice made the first four of the innings – an on-drive to the boundary from Mr Wells. The batting generally was quiet, and a few singles and an occasional two were all that was noted during the next quarter of an hour. Both batsmen were very cautious, and so quiet was the cricket that at the end of three-quarters of an hour only 21 runs had been obtained. The bowling was true and the fielding keen; indeed, the spectators for some time had little else to applaud but the fielding. At length, at 25, Mr Rice, who had been nearly bowled at each end, was caught at wicket. So far the Oxford innings had lasted 55 minutes.

The dullness continued during Mr Mordaunt's stay of a quarter of an hour. Nine runs were obtained and then an easy catch at slip disposed of him. Mr Leveson-Gower made a single and a snick for four and was then bowled by a good ball from Mr Jackson. Half the side were now out for 42. Mr Bathurst joined Mr Fry, who, after playing an over from Mr Wells badly, sent that bowler to the square-leg boundary, and the 50 was reached in an hour and a half. Soon afterwards Mr Wells, who had been bowling all the time from the pavilion end, was relieved by Mr Streatfeild, and Mr Bromley-Davenport superseded Mr Jackson. These, indeed, were the first changes in the attack. The result was that Mr Bathurst was bowled at 54. After Mr Fry had added four by a cut, Mr Wood for the second time in the match failed to score. Mr Fry made another good drive to the boundary and then skied the ball to deep mid-off. He had played a patient innings of 31, made in an hour and a half.

The end was very near, for Mr Brain was easily caught at extra slip and Mr Wilson was out a second time without scoring. The innings, which had lasted two hours, closed for 64 at 20 minutes past 6, Cambridge winning by 66 runs. The Oxford batting had been feeble in the extreme. Messrs

Bromley-Davenport and Streatfeild had bowled with great effect in the last half hour.

Monday 10 July, page 7: TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

UNIVERSITY CRICKET AND THE FOLLOW-ON

Sir, - I left a busy office early on Monday afternoon to see my old University play an uphill cricket match against Cambridge at Lord's. The sight was painful. Apparently the popular method at Oxford of playing a short-pitched ball to the off is to cover the wicket with the legs and keep the bat out of the way; the popular method of playing a half-volley on the leg stump is to plunge a little way out and make it a yorker, and of playing a full-pitch is to see how near the crease the ball can be made to stop.

Bowling has certainly improved greatly since my time; but there appears to be no suffered justification for a tight wrist and tight shoulder style of play, which is as unpleasant to watch as it is barren of result; and the sooner a little more vigour can be infused into Oxford batting, the better for cricket and the worse for lawn tennis and other competing pastimes.

But my object in writing was less to criticize play than to suggest for consideration and discussion a change in the law of "follow-on." The rule that the second side follows its innings if 80 behind was reasonable when grounds were rough and scores short. It is not reasonable when scores of over 300 are frequent. There is no such difference between 310 and 390 as justifies the disadvantage imposed on the leading side by the necessity of fielding again. I submit that the minority necessitating a follow-on should be proportioned and not absolute. And I suggest for consideration and discussion that when the second side are 40 per cent behind they should have the option of following on, and that when they are 50 per cent behind their adversaries should have the option of making them follow on.

Your obedient servant,

COURTENAY BOYLE

3 July: SUSSEX v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3986.html)

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

Yesterday's play at Brighton was favourable to Surrey, who had the first innings on a wicket that afforded some help to the bowlers. After a couple of batsmen had been lost for 11 runs the two Reads became partners and added 80, while Maurice Read and Baldwin put on 71 for the fourth wicket. The former was in altogether two hours.

Surrey completed their innings by half-past 4. Humphreys's lobs had been very effective and his six wickets averaged 13 runs each. Sussex fared badly, and at the close of the day required 29 to save the follow-on and had only three batsmen in hand.

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

Surrey secured a substantial victory by seven wickets in their match at the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday. Sussex, who soon completed their first innings, followed on with arrears of 82.

After three wickets were lost for 16, Messrs Newham, Brann and Wilson batted so successfully that Surrey were set 110 to make to win. Maurice Read again did well. He obtained in the match 143 and was only once out.

3 July: YORKSHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3987.html)

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

Little progress was made in this match at Bradford yesterday, first a bad light and then a thunderstorm stopping the cricket.

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

At Park-avenue, Bradford, yesterday, some excellent batting was witnessed, when these counties resumed their match, which had been interrupted by the thunderstorm of Monday. The wicket was slow in the more but steadily improved.

Yorkshire advanced their record in three hours and a quarter from 46 for three wickets to 220, when the last man left. Tunnicliffe hit ten fours, Brown eight and Peel five. When Notts went in, Shrewsbury was caught at short leg; but then Gunn and Barnes played out time. The latter, however, was once missed.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 6 July, page 11)

Gunn's large score of 150, his fifth three-figure innings in important cricket this season, was the most striking feature in yesterday's game at the Park Avenue Ground, Bradford. After the long delay of Monday the prospect of the contest being definitely decided was never very bright, and yesterday the match remained unfinished.

Nottinghamshire, who had made 125 for the loss of Shrewsbury, did not complete their innings until 4 o'clock, and in the three hours and a half they increased their score to 321. This total was obtained at the rate of 50 an hour. Gunn was seventh out at 302; he scored his 150 in five and a half hours by almost faultless batting; his chief hits were 13 fours, seven threes and four twos. Barnes, who had helped him to put on 93 for the second wicket, contributed 11 fours. Gunn and Mr Dixon added 105 for the fifth partnership.

When Nottinghamshire closed their innings only a little over two hours remained for play. Yorkshire, who were 101 behind, fared well in their second spell of batting, and the game was finally drawn . . .

3 July: DERBYSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3988.html)

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

There was a large attendance to see the opening of this match at Derby yesterday. The county went in first and were batting three hours and three-quarters for 199. Mr L G Wright's 56 was the best feature of the innings. He was in for a little over two hours and made seven fours, a three and six twos. Bagshaw helped him to add 63 for the second wicket in 75 minutes.

The Australians lost Mr Lyons in the first over, but afterwards, in an hour, Messrs Bannerman and Giffen put on 72 runs. The latter, however, was twice missed.

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

A great batting triumph has to be recorded for the Australians in their match with Derbyshire yesterday at Derby. The chief feature of this was the innings of 219 by Mr H Graham, whose early play in the tour stamped him as a good batsman. He got his runs yesterday in four hours without giving an apparent chance, and he hit 34 fours, ten threes and 13 twos.

Mr A Bannerman also did well, going in first and being sixth out for 105, which occupied him three and three-quarter hours. He was twice missed; but his game possessed more than his usual freedom and he made 13 fours. It was after the fifth Australian wicket fell for 130 that there were the long partnerships of Messrs Graham and Bannerman and Messrs Graham and Trumble.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 6 July, page 11)

As might have been expected from the position of the game on Tuesday evening at Derby, the Australians yesterday gained a decisive victory. The Australians, who had made 404 for the loss of nine batsmen, declared their innings closed yesterday morning and Derbyshire went in a second time with arrears of 295.

Against this uphill task the home batsmen played with great energy and put together a good score on the true wicket. But the total did not meet the dimensions that were promised by the 100 going up with only one man out. Messrs Wright and Evershed scored 50 in 30 minutes for the first partnership, and the former and Bagshaw 65 for the second. Mr Wright was eventually out third at 122. In his excellent innings were six fours, a three and five twos. He had made over 100 runs in the match.

Subsequently the best feature of the play was the defence of Chatterton, who was in an hour and 40 minutes. The innings, which extended over 3 1/4 hours, realized 224, leaving the Australians the winners by an innings and 71 runs. Mr Trott had bowled with marked effect, and his full record for that match was nine wickets for 81.

6 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3989.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 July, page 10)

The fact that the Surrey executive had been unable to get properly representative sides for this match would not appear to have affected the interest in the contest, and there were some 10,000 spectators of yesterday's cricket on the Oval. It was the Gentlemen's side that suffered most from the Lord's and provincial fixtures, yet they got the better of the game.

With the first spell of batting the Players gave a very moderate exhibition of their skill. The opening was vigorous enough, but, having made 28 out of 46 in rather more than half an hour, Sugg had to leave, while the bowling of Shrewsbury made two wickets down for 75. From this point the record was almost wholly one of disaster for the professionals, who fell rapidly before the bowling of Mr Ernest Smith and the Cambridge men – Messrs Wells and Bromley-Davenport. Indeed, the innings was completed in a little over two hours and its product was only 129. Mr Smith's five wickets for 49 runs was an excellent performance. Shrewsbury, who had been struck in the face while batting, did not field with the Players.

The Gentlemen's innings was started in a brilliant manner by Dr W G Grace and Mr Ferris, although the former should have been caught in the slips before he had scored. As it was, the first two batsmen had made 118 runs when they were separated. Dr Grace hit seven fours, three threes and five twos, and Mr Ferris, whose cutting was particularly good, nine fours and nine twos. Subsequently the only two men to meet with any success to speak of were Messrs Latham and Smith. Mold bowled with great effect, and just before 7 o'clock the innings ended for 213, a total that gave the Gentlemen an advantage of 84. Mold's seven wickets cost 85 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 July, page 14)

Although the Players were severely handicapped by the inability of Shrewsbury (owing to the severe blow received on his face) to take any further part in this match, they fought an uphill game so well yesterday on the Oval that at the end of the day the Gentlemen, with six men out, still required 54 to win.

Thursday night's record left the amateurs with an advantage of 84 on the first innings. Yesterday the Players began their second venture at 20 minutes to 12, and were not dismissed until nearly 4 o'clock. In the course of three hours and a half's batting they made 248. After the failure of Sugg there was a long partnership between Gunn and Maurice Read, who raised the score from 5 to 105. Hearne, who followed, exercised great care and left Gunn to make the majority of the runs. Gunn played fine cricket, but when everyone thought him well set for his 100 he turned the ball into his wicket. He had made 88 in a couple of hours by 15 fours, three threes, three twos and singles.

Three wickets were down for 147, and now began the steady dismissal of the batsmen. Hearne continued his patient defence. There was some lively batting by Lockwood and a somewhat useful stand by Attewell and Hearne, yet when the seventh wicket went the total was only 208. Subsequently Storer hit vigorously and the ultimate total was 248, Hearne taking out his bat for a patient 43. Mr Smith had again bowled well, and his double analysis gave him credit for nine wickets at a cost of 132 runs.

The remainder of the day – viz. from 4.25 to 7 o'clock – was taken up by the attempt of the Gentlemen to get 165 for victory. Lockwood bowled effectively and Dr W G Grace alone met with any substantial success. The wicket helped the attack to a certain extent, and the ball, getting up, struck several of the batsmen rather badly, while Storer, the wicket-keeper, was so much injured on the hand that he had to retire. Messrs Fry, Smith and Ranjitsinhji were all hit and, with Shrewsbury incapacitated and Dr Grace unable to field in the morning because of a bad heel, there was quite a chapter of misfortunes.

Dr Grace after he had scored 15 should have been caught in the slips, but he subsequently played with great skill and has now scored over 100 in the match. He and Mr Fry got together at 82.

Day 3 (report from Monday 10 July, page 7)

After a remarkably keen match the Players beat the Gentlemen at the Oval on Saturday by eight runs. The state of the score on Friday night left the game doubtful, for the Gentlemen, with four wickets in hand, had to make the last 54 runs on a pitch that had so far helped the bowlers, who were in this instance particularly dangerous.

Although Saturday's cricket occupied only a short time, each side in turn seemed likely to win. Dr W G Grace and Mr Fry, the not-outs, with 55 and 12, raised the score to 129 before Mr Fry was dismissed by Lockwood, after which Mr Wells met with considered success, and the game seemed virtually over. Mold, who had given way to Briggs, resumed the attack and soon got Mr Wells caught by the wicket-keeper. The score was now 150 for eight wickets and, with Mr Bromley-Davenport in, only 15 runs were wanted; but Dr Grace, who had been playing so well, misjudged a slow ball and skied it to point. Mr Kemble's stay was short, and an exciting finish ended in a win for the Players by eight runs.

Dr Grace's 68 brought his aggregate in the match to 125; his second innings lasted three hours and he hit six fours, five threes and six twos. Lockwood's seven wickets cost only eight runs each.

6 July: MIDDLESEX v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3990.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 July, page 10)

About 10,000 people visited Lord's yesterday to see the opening day's play in the return match between Middlesex and Sussex. Mr A J Webbe had sufficiently recovered from the injury to his hand to be able to captain the side, in which Mr J Douglas, of the Cambridge eleven, appeared for the first time; but the absence of Mr O'Brien, who is in Ireland, is a source of weakness to the team. Sussex had almost their strongest eleven. The wicket played well.

Middlesex went in first, and at luncheon their score was 143 for the loss of two men. Mr Stoddart played with great brilliancy and, aided by Mr Scott, put on 108 runs for the second partnership in an hour and a half. He was then caught at mid-on from the only false stroke that he made. His chief hits were nine fours, two threes and seven twos. Mr Scott also played excellently, being third out at 161, after making seven fours and four threes in his 65. Between 4 o'clock and 4.45 there was something of a collapse in the Middlesex batting, the last six wickets falling for 44 runs. Mr Foley played well. Sussex fielded splendidly. In the last 80 minutes of the day Sussex scored 86 runs. Mr Murdoch batted in fine style and made some exceptionally good drives.

A remarkable incident occurred during the afternoon. Mr Foley, having assisted the wicket-keeper to gather the bails, was given out by Henty, the umpire, for handling one of them, on appeal by the bowler. This declaration being contrary to every rule of cricket, the batsman, who had returned to the pavilion, was courteously invited by Mr W L Murdoch, the visitors' captain, to continue his innings, which he did, increasing his score from 19 to [47].

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 July, page 14)

The great innings of 159 by Mr G Brann, at Lord's, yesterday was the main cause of the advantageous position of which Sussex last evening found themselves. There has been a great improvement in Sussex cricket this season, and now in their latest match they imperil the lead possessed by Middlesex in the county championship.

Mr Brann is best known to the public, perhaps, as a great hitter; but yesterday saw him playing sound and excellent cricket and getting his runs at a far slower rate than usually characterizes his game. He had gone in for ten minutes on Thursday night and scored four, and yesterday he was batting four hours and a half, being eighth to leave – clean bowled at 340. He made 150 out of 262 put together during his stay; his first 50 runs took him two hours to obtain and his next 109 were scored in two hours and 40 minutes. Although beaten by the ball once or twice, he gave no chance, and his chief hits were 19 fours, three threes and 16 twos. This is Mr Brann's second big score at Lord's this year, for he made 14 for Sussex against Marylebone.

Although Mr Murdoch was in an hour and 20 minutes yesterday morning, he added only 17 runs to his overnight 40; with Mr Brann he raised the figures from 78 to 138, while Mr Wilson contributed a fine 40 out of 93 added for the fifth wicket. Humphreys helped to put on 78, and in the end the Sussex score reached 346; Butt was unable to go in because of an injured hand. It had not been a fast scoring innings, and the secret of this rested with the superb fielding and capital bowling; Mr Douglas (slow left hand) had taken five wickets for 98 runs, while Mr M'Gregor had kept wicket

excellently and had given only one bye in an innings that lasted over six hours.

Middlesex lost two of their best batsmen in the last hour and were still 58 runs behind at the drawing of stumps. Thus to-day they have a severe uphill fight before them. About 4,000 people were present. The weather was very hot.

Day 3 (report from Monday 10 July, page 7)

The substantial success of Sussex in this match at Lord's on Saturday was in every way merited by their excellent cricket. Middlesex did not play up to their form. Every one expected the team to make a stout fight, although at the close of Friday they were 58 behind and had lost two wickets – those of Mr Stoddart and Mr Webbe.

On Saturday morning Messrs Foley and Scott batted so steadily and well as to cause some changes in the bowling, but when there seemed a prospect of a good score a sudden alteration took place in the condition of the game. Hilton, who had previously let Mr Foley escape at slip, brilliantly caught Mr Scott at mid-on; a ball got up and went off the shoulder of Mr Douglas's bat into point's hands, and Mr Foley was caught at wicket. All three batsmen were dismissed at 88.

Mr Ford – although he narrowly escaped being caught by Mr Brann, standing back at the wicket in the absence of Butt (whose hand was too bad to admit of his playing) – drove brilliantly, and by 20 minutes to 1 the innings defeat was averted. While Mr Ford and Rawlin were together the score rose rapidly, but the latter returned the ball at 120, and at 162 Mr Ford himself was bowled. His brilliant innings of 57 occupied only 50 minutes and included ten fours. The other batsmen failed before the bowling of Humphreys, whose lobs had been tried again at 152. Mr Hadow was well caught in the long field, Mr Henery bowled and Mr M'Gregor stumped, the innings, which lasted three hours, being completed just before luncheon for 182.

Sussex went in to make 80 for victory at a quarter to three and lost two wickets for 16 runs. Hearne's first over was rather remarkable: Bean made two off-drives for four each and was then bowled, while from the last two balls Mr Murdoch scored eight runs. Sixty-four were wanted when Messrs Murdoch and Newham became partners, and by fine cricket they made the runs in an hour. Mr Murdoch played exceptionally well and was warmly cheered after the winning hit had been made. Sussex thus won by eight wickets. This defeat deprives Middlesex of the leading position which they hold among the counties.

6 July: YORKSHIRE v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3991.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 July, page 10)

Somerset were without the services of some of their best players at Sheffield yesterday, when about 8,000 people watched the first stages of this match. The visitors' innings lasted a little over three hours, and its best feature was the capital form of Mr Poynton.

In the last two hours Yorkshire did well. Mr Sellers and Tunnicliffe made a brilliant stand for the second wicket, scoring 162 in an hour and 40 minutes . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 July, page 14)

Yesterday at Bramall-lane, Sheffield, Yorkshire easily won their match with Somerset. On Thursday evening they had already passed the visitors' score and had seven wickets in hand, while yesterday in an hour and three-quarters the innings was completed for 300 runs.

Mr Sellers increased his 84 (not out) to 103, being fifth to leave at 216. He was batting two hours and three-quarters, and beyond a chance to point with his figures at 32, he made no mistake. The chief contributions in his remarkably fine innings were 13 fours, six threes and nine twos. Wainwright, Ulyett and Hirst all did well afterwards, and it was half-past 1 when the last wicket fell.

Somerset, who were 139 behind, were got out a second time for 126, the bad turf largely accounting for their meagre scoring. Wainwright's analysis came out excellently, his five wickets costing only 38. Yorkshire were victorious by an innings and 13 runs.

6 July: AUSTRALIANS v LEICESTERSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3992.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 7 July, page 10)

A great advantage was gained by the Australians in this match at Leicester yesterday. Going in first they made 281 in three and a quarter hours; the chief merit of their batting rested with Messrs Trott and Gregory, who put on 167 while they were together, 195 minutes. Each player hit 13 fours. Messrs Giffen and Trott got Leicestershire out in an hour and 20 minutes, and to-day the county will have to follow on.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 8 July, page 14)

Leicestershire, who on Thursday night were 214 behind at the end of the first innings, yesterday followed on, at Leicester, and their batting in the second attempt showed considerable improvement. Tomlin and Holland added 54 in 30 minutes, the former's 45 including nine fours, while afterwards Pougher did well, hitting seven fours in his 50. However, the county were out in a little over two hours, and the Australians won by an innings and 51 runs. Mr Trott, besides making 100, took in the double innings 11 wickets for 87.

Subjoined are the present positions of the counties, and it will be noted that Yorkshire is once more at the head: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	9	6	2	1	4
Middlesex	9	6	3	0	3
Surrey	8	5	3	0	2
Kent	6	3	2	1	1
Notts	8	3	3	2	0
Lancashire	8	2	3	1	-1
Sussex	9	3	4	2	-1
Gloucestershire	7	2	4	1	-2
Somerset	6	0	6	0	-6

10 July: GENTLEMEN v PLAYERS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3993.html)

Monday 10 July, page 7: To-day, at Lord's, begins the great test match of the season between the Gentlemen and Players. Two fine sides have been chosen, although the Yorkshire fixture with the Australians has prevented the selection of any of that county's men, while Somerset v Kent is also being played. Shrewsbury, who was injured last Thursday at the Oval, may be sufficiently well to appear to-day, otherwise Barnes will take his place. The sides are as follows: -

Gentlemen. – Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr G Brann, Mr F S Jackson, Mr W W Read, Mr C J Kortright, Mr G M'Gregor, Mr C M Wells, Mr J J Ferris, Mr F G J Ford and Mr A C M'Laren.

Players. – Shrewsbury, Gunn, Flowers, Attewell, Sherwin, Bean, Lockwood, Sugg, Briggs, J T Hearne and Maurice Read.

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 July, page 12)

To the Lord's match between Gentlemen and Players the cricket public look for the true test of the professional and amateur talent; and this fact was evidenced by the very large crowd which assembled yesterday to see the first stage of the game at headquarters. Although a little handicapped by the engagements of three of the big counties, the Marylebone executive got together two fine sides under the captaincy of Dr W G Grace and Sherwin respectively; and, with the exception that Mr Brann, through indisposition, was succeeded by Mr W L Murdoch, there was no change from the teams originally published. Shrewsbury had sufficiently recovered from his injury at the Oval last week to be able to take his place among the Players.

The eight or nine thousand spectators saw some remarkably keen cricket alike in batting, bowling and fielding; but the Gentlemen finished up at 7 o'clock with a decided advantage. Sunday's rain and a further shower yesterday morning had not penetrated the turf to any depth and, with the surface of the ground slightly soft, the pitch bumped a good deal during the early hours, but improved after luncheon.

Good points in the game were plentiful. Mr W W Read's excellent 79 and the smaller scores of Dr Grace and Mr Wells furnished the most attracted items in the batting; Attewell carried off the chief bowling honours, but Hearne, although not very effective, kept a fine pitch; and the fielding, too, was of the keenest nature. Very late in the day was seen the great wicket-keeping skill of Mr M'Gregor, who made a wonderful catch when he secured Sugg off the fast bowler. The weather throughout the day was warm and bright.

Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart began the Gentlemen's batting shortly after 12 o'clock. Their cricket was so good that, in spite of the ball bumping considerably at the nursery end, the start heralded an excellent score. In about half an hour 27 runs were made, and then, to almost everyone's disappointment, Mr Stoddart ran himself out; he had played the ball hard to cover point and, attempting a run, easy lost his wicket. Sharp running when the ball goes to such a fieldsman as Briggs is always dangerous.

Mr Ferris played on before he had scored, after which Dr Grace and Mr W W Read batted very steadily for a time. The pitch showed addition signs of bumping, and one ball from Hearne got up

and struck Dr Grace sharply on the arm. A lot of quiet cricket preceded the reaching of the 50, and then at 51 Dr Grace was out leg before. His 32 had been excellently obtained in 65 minutes. Messrs Jackson and W W Read were together 50 minutes and added 52 runs in fine form, while, after the former had been caught at wicket at 103, Mr Read continued his strong game.

The Players' bowling was frequently varied at the pavilion end; but, following luncheon, Attewell had a long spell at the nursery wicket, where he kept a fine length and got a lot of break on the ball. Mr Read completed his 50 at a quarter past 3, and made a weak drive just out of reach of Gunn at mid-on. His play on the leg side was very effective; indeed, so well was he set that the spectators must have begun to think of his 100. But at 160, in playing back to Attewell, he was completely beaten and retired for 79. It was a fine innings, lasting two hours and a quarter and including nine fours, five threes and eight twos. The fifth partnership had yielded 57 runs.

After Mr Read had gone the batting grew a little dull. Mr M'Laren took an hour and 20 minutes to make 21 and Mr Murdoch occupied over an hour in making 15. The seventh wicket fell at 203, and Mr Ford was easily caught at point at 214 from Briggs, who had relieved Attewell after the latter's spell had lasted two hours and a quarter, during which he bowled 31 overs for 35 runs and three wickets. Mr Wells, who had relieved Mr M'Laren when the sixth wicket fell, seemed in capital form; he made one especially good hit on the off from Briggs, which produced four runs. Neither he nor Mr M'Gregor could do much with Hearne, whose bowling at the pavilion end was always marked by a fine pitch and considered break. Runs came steadily, and Lockwood and Bean took up the bowling at 237; but, as these changes had little effect on the batsmen, Attewell resumed at 254 and at once got Mr M'Gregor caught at wicket. Forty runs had been added in half an hour. Mr Wells was tenth out – bowled at 258; he was in an hour and 40 minutes, and his 44 had been made by sound batting and included five fours and three threes.

The Gentlemen obtained their runs at the rate of about 50 an hour. It was a very good score, considering the fine bowling and fielding and the early difficulties of the wicket. Attewell's analysis came out remarkably well; his five wickets cost only ten runs each.

Rather less than three-quarters of an hour remained for cricket when Shrewsbury and Sugg began the Players' innings. Messrs Kortright and Jackson were the bowlers. Fifteen runs were quickly obtained, and then Shrewsbury, after giving a difficult chance in the slips, turned a good ball from Mr Jackson into his wicket. Without addition Mr M'Gregor, who was standing up to Mr Kortright's very fast bowling, made a wonderful catch low down at the wicket and dismissed Sugg. Maurice Read and Gunn were together a little while, but only 28 were recorded when a ball from Mr Kortright struck the latter's off stump. Bean arrived, and at the close of the day the Players, with seven wickets to fall, were 223 behind.

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

At Lord's yesterday the eight or nine thousand spectators saw plenty of excellent cricket in the uphill fight of the Players against the Gentlemen. So good were the bowling and fielding of the latter that, although the wicket was in better condition than on Monday, they finished last evening with every prospect of a pretty easy victory. The weather was generally bright, but there were a couple of light showers.

The Players, who had lost three of their best batsmen on Monday evening for 35 runs against the Gentlemen's score of 258, renewed their innings at 20 minutes to 12, Messrs Kortright and Jackson

bowling. Bean and Maurice Read were the not-outs. The latter made some very good hits, but in the fast bowler's third over Bean fell to a smart catch at slip. Flowers and Read rapidly added 22 before the former, who had an escape, was also finely caught at slip. Mr Wells, who had relieved Mr Kortright for a little while at 65, brought about the dismissal of Flowers, but when Mr Kortright resumed he quickly bowled out Briggs, sending one of the stumps fully 16 yards away from the wicket. Six for 76.

More lively cricket was the outcome of the partnership of Read and Lockwood, and the 100 was reached at 12.45, but the end came quickly and the last four wickets went for 18 more runs. Another good catch at slip dismissed Lockwood, while Maurice Read was eighth to leave at 115, cleverly caught and bowled by Mr Kortright, who followed up one of his fastest balls and held a hard return. Read's 42 was the result of excellent cricket, and during his stay of an hour and 40 minutes he had hit six fours. Neither Attewell nor Sherwin gave much trouble, and by ten minutes past 1 the innings was over for 118, a total that had taken some two hours and a quarter to put together. Mr Kortright had bowled with great effect and his seven wickets cost only 73 runs.

The Players, who were 140 behind, followed on and had half an hour's batting before luncheon. The original "order" was adhered to, Shrewsbury and Sugg being the first men in. Mr Kortright shared the bowling with Mr Wells. Sugg had only obtained four when he should have been caught by Mr Jackson at cover-point; this was rather a bad miss, but the fieldsman soon had the satisfaction of seeing the batsman whom he had allowed to escape taken at mid-on from a skier. The first wicket had realized 37 runs in 25 minutes, and Shrewsbury's share of the score was 26.

Gunn went in after the interval and played with great care, while Shrewsbury scored quickly from both ends. The 50 was reached at five minutes past 3, but, having obtained 41, Shrewsbury was nearly caught at short slip by Mr Murdoch, who scarcely reached the ball. All the attractive cricket came from Shrewsbury, whereas Gunn took 25 minutes to obtain a couple of runs. Mr Ferris began what proved to be a long spell of bowling at the nursery end at 65, when he relieved Mr Jackson, and nine runs later Mr Wells displaced Mr Kortright, whose great pace caused him to show signs of fatigue. Shrewsbury exercised much caution before making his 50 in an hour and a quarter. This point in his innings was marked by the loud applause of the company. Then, at 79, Gunn, in playing forward to Mr Ferris, got his foot over the crease and was dextrously stumped; the patience of his defence was shown by the fact that he occupied 50 minutes in making 14 runs. Two for 79.

The next hour's play was particularly interesting and furnished a great contrast in style between the finished batting of Shrewsbury and the vigorous form of Maurice Read. The 100 was announced at 4 o'clock, and by 4.35 the arrears were cleared off. Shrewsbury's game grew careful and his figures stood at 71 for nearly half an hour; Read, however, scored freely until Mr Wells went on again at 141 and quickly got the Surrey professional taken at mid-on. He had contributed 44 towards the 67 added in the hour of his stay, hitting four fours, a three and eight twos.

With Bean in, Shrewsbury began to score freely again, but at 165 his fine innings was closed, Mr Wells getting the batsman leg before. He had been in rather less than two hours and three-quarters, and his chief hits were ten fours, three threes and five twos, while two of his items were increased to five by overthrows.

With the dismissal of Shrewsbury the game turned badly for the Players. In the course of three-quarters of an hour four wickets fell for an addition of 40 runs. Mr Ferris bowled Flowers with a "yorker" and got Briggs leg before, while at 205 Mr Wells, with successive balls, sent back Bean and Attewell. Eight for 205 gave the Players a very poor prospect, for they were only 65 on; but

Lockwood and Hearne threw great brilliancy into the hitting and made 50 in the first half-hour of their partnership. Mr Ferris, after bowling for two hours and a half from the nursery wicket, gave way to Mr Jackson, while Mr Kortright, who had not bowled since 127, went on again at 241. It was left to Mr Jackson to separate the batsmen, and in his third over he got Lockwood caught at third man. The company had grown very enthusiastic during the stand of 35 minutes, which had yielded 52 runs. Mr Kortright quickly bowled Sherwin, and at 6.25 the innings was completed for 258, obtained in four hours, and, curiously enough, the same total as that made by the amateurs on Monday.

The Gentlemen began the task of making 119 to win at ten minutes to 7, Messrs M'Gregor and Ford going in after the interval had been lengthened by a shower. Mr Ford drove Lockwood for four, but was bowled next ball, after which Mr Ferris and Mr M'Gregor played out time, the Gentlemen at the close of the day requiring 112, with nine wickets to fall.

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

The third day of the match at Lord's between Gentlemen and Players was spoiled by the bad weather. Had the wicket remained hard the Gentlemen were very unlikely to do anything but gain an easy victory. The rain, however, much altered the conditions, and soon yesterday, when play was at last possible, the pitch grew difficult and the batsmen were placed at a disadvantage.

So heavy had been the rain in the early morning that the gates were not opened to the public until half-past 3 o'clock, by which time the weather had become quite pleasant. It was ten minutes to 4 when the game was proceeded with, and even then the wicket was in a very saturated state and needed a plentiful supply of sawdust to enable the batsmen and bowlers to get a foothold. Messrs M'Gregor and Ferris, the not outs, renewed the Gentlemen's batting, 112 being required to win. Briggs and Hearne were the bowlers.

Mr M'Gregor began well with a fine boundary hit, but at 16 he was caught and bowled. Mr Stoddart then went in; 22 were made in 35 minutes, and then at 32 Mr Stoddart was completely beaten by a ball from Briggs which broke back and took the off stump. Three for 32. With Dr Grace in, the field was more closely placed and, the ball getting up, Gunn was put at short mid-off. The score had not been increased since Mr Stoddart's dismissal when a good catch at the wicket got rid of Mr Ferris, who had occupied altogether 55 minutes in making seven runs.

The brightness of the weather began to disappear and a storm from the north seemed gathering. Mr Jackson, the latest arrival, and Dr Grace each got Briggs away to the on-boundary, causing Attewell to take up the bowling at 44. Another good drive by Mr Jackson for four and a single raised the figures to 49, and then the long-threatening rain came at 5 o'clock. After waiting three-quarters of an hour it was decided to abandon the match, the result being a draw of a pretty even nature.

10 July: SOMERSET v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3994.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 July, page 12)

Somerset managed to get together a stronger eleven than usual at Taunton yesterday for the return match with Kent. Both the brothers Palairet were available, though Mr J B Challen was still absent. Kent, who lacked several of their leading men, were assisted by the Rev H C L Tindall, the famous Cambridge University athlete, Mr Perkins, who played for the Light Blues at Lord's last week, and Mr C W Little, an Oxford Senior, the last-named being a wicket-keeper.

Unfortunately the bad weather of the morning prevented any cricket until 25 minutes to 3, and there was another interruption by rain later on. During the hours available for the game Kent were occupied in making 224 for the loss of four wickets. The chief point in the batting was the play of A Hearne, who went in first and was fourth out at 212 for 89; he made his runs in three hours, hitting ten fours, five threes and six twos. Mr Blair helped him to add 48 for the second wicket and Martin 30 for the third, while he and George Hearne put on 107 in an hour and three-quarters for the fourth.

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

Rain fell so persistently yesterday at Taunton that play in this match was impracticable. When stumps were drawn on Monday Kent had scored 224 for the loss of four wickets.

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

The hours of cricket at Taunton yesterday were occupied by the batting of Somerset on a slow wicket. Monday and Tuesday had not advanced the match very far, because of the bad weather, and yesterday morning Kent, who had made 224 for the loss of four wickets, at once declared their innings closed.

Another rain-storm during the night had left the ground very soft; but a start was made at midday, and Somerset quickly lost a couple of batsmen for 13 runs. Mr L C H Palairet exercised the greatest care, while Mr Hedley played vigorously and scored 26 out of the 38 put on for the third partnership. Subsequently the play was quiet and cautious, and Mr Palairet saw the whole of his side dismissed in three hours and a quarter for 122. Nichols was in rather less than an hour for four runs. The feature of the play was, of course, the game of the Oxford captain, whose patience was very remarkable in a batsman of usually quick scoring powers. His 51 not out included a five and six fours.

When Somerset's innings ended there were 80 minutes left for play. Soon after the home side had followed on, however, there was a renewal of the wet weather, and eventually the match was drawn.

10 July: YORKSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3995.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 July, page 12)

Yesterday at the Headingley Ground, Leeds, the Australians began the third of their matches this season with Yorkshire, who had beaten them at Sheffield and played a drawn game at Bradford. The county lacked the services of Mr Sellers through indisposition and Mr Jackson, the latter having been invited to play for the Gentlemen at Lord's. Mr Lyons, with Messrs Coningham and Jarvis, stood out of the colonial side. It was not by any means good weather, while the wicket proved slow and false. There were about 5,000 spectators.

Going in first, the Australians were batting from 12.20 until 4.20 and scored 142. Their figures might have been much less had the Yorkshiremen held all the catches given to them. Before luncheon the visitors ran up 63 for five wickets, Mr Bannerman contributing 28 in 75 minutes. After the interval Messrs M'Leod and Graham considerably profited by the mistakes of the home fieldsmen. Mr M'Leod should have been secured by Ulyett at point when he had obtained only nine runs. Before the sixth wicket was captured 57 runs were put on in rather less than an hour. Then Peel bowled with much success.

Yorkshire fared badly, but after six wickets had been lost for 46 runs Mounsey and Peel added seven, but the latter was missed just before rain stopped the game.

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

On the false wicket at the Headingley Ground, Leeds, yesterday there was some very remarkable cricket, and late in the day Yorkshire lost eight men for 11 runs. They had got the best of the game when play ceased on Monday night, for, aided by some mistakes in the county fielding, their score reached 142, while Yorkshire lost six wickets for 53. Although another home batsman went at 56, the affairs of the county were improved by the play of Peel and Waller, who added 28, and finally the innings realized 95.

With an advantage of 47 the Colonials began their second venture, and up to a certain point they fared badly. When six wickets had fallen for 47, however, steady play by Messrs Trumble, M'Leod and Walter Giffen was followed by a quite brilliant batting display from Mr Turner. He profited so much by a bad mistake of Hirst's when he had scored only six that his vigorous hitting produced 41 runs out of the last 59. Mr Walter Giffen helped him to add 57 while they were together, the latter being in an hour and 20 minutes.

Yorkshire were left with 194 to make for victory, and although few could have expected them to score the runs, no one anticipated such feebleness. Against the bowling of Messrs Bruce and Turner the last innings of the match became almost a procession of batsmen to and from the wicket. Brown, Tunnicliffe, Lord Hawke and Ulyett were out for three runs, and an addition of eight saw the dismissal of four more men – Wainwright, Moorhouse, Mounsey and Waller. Eight had fallen for 11 runs in 40 minutes.

In order to finish the match it was decided to play beyond the usual hour for drawing stumps. Peel and Hirst made 24 runs and Peel and Hunter 13. Then the innings ended for 48. Messrs Bruce and

Turner had remarkable bowling figures. The weather was bright and there were about 7,000 spectators.

10 July: LANCASHIRE v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128138.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 11 July, page 12)

With three such good cricketers as Mr M'Laren, Briggs and Sugg away from the Lancashire side, there was a prospect of the match between these counties producing an even game. The contest opened at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday.

Derbyshire won the toss and were batting for three hours and 20 minutes, the feature of their innings being the capital score of 72 by Bagshaw, who made his runs in an hour and a half and hit 11 fours. His dismissal was effected by a dextrous return catch. Lancashire went in for half an hour . . .

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

In spite of a long delay caused by rain, considerable progress was made with the Lancashire innings in this match at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, when A Ward and Baker played well for the home side.

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

At Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, Derbyshire had rather the better of the game with Lancashire, but the rain late in the afternoon prevented the match from being played out. The home side, who had lost eight wickets for 135, completed their innings for 142, leaving Derbyshire with a lead of 24.

In two hours and a quarter the visitors made 111 for six wickets, a score that would have been less had Lancashire not missed various catches. The game was drawn . . .

Tuesday 11 July, page 12: THE CRICKETERS' FUND

Last night, at Lord's, the annual general meeting of the Cricketers' Fund Friendly Society was well attended. Mr W E Denison presided, and among others present were Major-General Marshall, Mr Henry Perkins, the secretary of the Marylebone Club, Mr C Luff, secretary of the fund, and T Hearne, treasurer.

A statement of accounts showed the society to be in a thoroughly good position. The appeal made to the counties had been well responded to, while there had been a decrease in sick allowances. After the chairman had alluded to the melancholy end of William Scotton, who was a member of their society, the officers were re-elected and a committee of management appointed.

Subsequently, Mr Denison, in a brief speech, touched upon the duties of umpires, observing that an umpire was at liberty to alter his decision. What he meant by this was that an umpire, feeling certain that he had accidentally erred, was entitled to correct his mistake. It was necessary that umpires should thoroughly understand the laws of the game and the regulations issued by the M.C.C. After some other speeches the chairman stated that it had not been found possible to arrange a match with the Australians for the benefit of the society.

THE MARYLEBONE CLUB

We have been asked to publish the following:-

“It being a matter of complaint that many persons, who are not entitled to the privileges, obtain admission to the pavilion at Lord’s, the committee request that in future all members produce their passes.”

Thursday 13 July, page 6

ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA. – For this match, to be played at Lord’s on Monday next and following days, seven of the England team have been chosen – viz., Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr G M’Gregor, Mr F S Jackson, Shrewsbury, Gunn and Peel. The remaining four will be selected from the following players, who have been asked to be in readiness on the ground: - Attewell, Mold, Flowers, Ward, Maurice Read and Lockwood.

Friday 14 July, page 13

THE FOLLOW-ON AT CRICKET

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir, - Every cricketer knows that the choice of innings often gives a tremendous advantage. Every one, it is presumed, would like to see the two sides in a match play it out upon equal terms.

But, as one side must go in first, the spin of the coin, with its consequences, seems unavoidable. How can this be modified?

Suppose the winner of the toss had the option of taking first innings upon condition that the loser had the option of following on, whatever the state of the score, or, if he preferred to put in the other side, had himself that option.

The advantage of having first innings would then be minimized by the prospect of having the fourth as well.

Yours faithfully,
SPECTATOR

13 July: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3996.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 July, page 11)

At the Ashley Down Ground, Bristol, yesterday, some showers delayed the game until a quarter past 12, when the weather was still dull and heavy. Lancashire won the toss and went in. Two of their wickets were lost for eight runs.

Then Messrs M'Laren and Smith, despite the variations in the attack, remained together until 95 was reached, when Mr M'Laren fell to a catch at extra mid-off, 87 runs being the result of the partnership; his 56 had been made without a mistake and comprised seven fours, four threes and five twos. Mr Smith's 35 were the result of careful batting, and the innings closed at 20 minutes past 4 for 159.

Gloucestershire lost Mr Radcliffe for four runs, and then Dr W G Grace and Painter advanced the score to 66, when, at 5.45, rain stopped play for the day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 15 July, page 13)

During the time that the rain admitted of play in this match at the Ashley Down ground, Bristol, on Thursday, Gloucestershire had gained a decided advantage, as, while the northern county had completed an innings for 159, they had obtained 66 at the cost of a wicket only. Yesterday the weather held fine and a fairly numerous company visited the ground.

The home county continued their batting with Dr W G Grace and Painter to the attacks of Briggs and Mold. When only a dozen runs had been added the Gloucestershire captain fell to a catch at mid-on. He had been batting 75 minutes for 16 runs. Mr Ferris came, and Painter was let off in the long-field. The former was clean bowled and Mr Rice arrived. Painter, however, did most of the batting. He was fourth to leave, and his 70 had taken him an hour and three-quarters to obtain; it included eight fours, three threes, nine twos &c. Captain Luard batted well for his 25 and the innings closed for 177.

Lancashire, with 18 runs in arrear, began their second venture in a most determined style. Mr M'Laren and Ward ran up 82 runs in 55 minutes, when the former fell to a catch at wicket. Then Sugg did well, while Ward batted splendidly for 100 not out. When stumps were drawn Lancashire were 197 runs on and four wickets to fall.

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

Lancashire were greatly indebted for their decisive success at Ashley Down, Bristol, on Saturday, to the large not-out innings of Albert Ward and the fine bowling of Mold and Briggs. On Friday night, when the Lancastrians were 197 ahead and had four wickets in hand, Ward had already run into three figures.

The innings was completed in an hour and 25 minutes for an addition of 66 runs, and Ward, who had gone in first, carried out his bat for 140. His play extended over four and a half hours, and he

gave no chance, while his chief hits were 19 fours, 14 threes and three twos. Ward had scored exactly half the runs made from the bat.

With the wicket in good order it was expected that Gloucestershire would make a bold attempt to get the 264 necessary to win. It was, of course, a formidable task, especially against the skilful Lancashire bowlers; but no one thought of the almost lamentable failures that were to come. Mold and Briggs triumphed completely. Messrs Radcliffe and Rice began the batting, but were out for seven runs, while after luncheon an hour and 40 minutes sufficed for the finish of the innings. Mr Ferris played steadily, but the only other double figures were those by Dr E M Grace and Roberts. Briggs and Mold had bowled unchanged, and the latter's double analysis credited him with ten wickets for 111 runs. Lancashire won the match by 175 runs.

13 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3997.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 July, page 11)

Bad weather considerably curtailed the hours of cricket in this match at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday. Indeed, it was not until 3.20 that Notts, who won the toss, were able to begin their innings. They were batting altogether two hours and three-quarters; but, apart from the fine cricket of Barnes, the play of the home team was tame and it cannot be said that they utilized their opportunities of forcing the game while the wicket remained wet and easy.

In the first hour only 44 runs were made, while after 90 had gone up for the loss of four batsmen the conditions of affairs greatly altered. Barnes, who went in first wicket down at 11, was fifth out at 99, having scored 50 in quite his best form; his stay lasted an hour and three-quarters and he hit five fours, a three and five twos. Shrewsbury was in an hour for his 19; Mounsey, in catching him out, so severely injured his hand as to necessitate his withdrawal from the game, and the Nottinghamshire captain courteously granted the visitors a fresh man in his stead. It will be noted that Peel is away from Yorkshire; his absence is caused through indisposition.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 15 July, page 13)

Late yesterday, at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, the powerful Midland eleven collapsed in an extraordinary fashion before the Yorkshire bowlers, and, although the visitors held a lead of only 58, this was sufficient to defeat Nottinghamshire by an innings and 20 runs.

Little progress had been made with the game on Thursday. Yesterday Nottinghamshire completed their first venture for 124, and Yorkshire before luncheon made 122 for the loss of four wickets. Subsequently the last-named side found runs less easy to obtain, and in an hour and three-quarters the six outstanding wickets fell for 60 runs. Mr Jackson, the Cambridge captain, played the best cricket of the side, making 59 out of 77 in 80 minutes, and hitting five fours, two threes and 14 twos. Brown was pretty fortunate during his long stay, being thrice missed.

After losing Gunn, Shrewsbury and Barnes for 12 runs Notts quite collapsed, and in an hour and 20 minutes the side was out for 38. The Yorkshire bowlers did well; but the Notts men showed a lack of judgment in running, and the wicket offered little excuse for their meagre score. Yorkshire won by an innings and 20 runs.

13 July: SURREY v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3398.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 July, page 11)

Yesterday was a bowler's day on the Oval, and the only thing to relieve the monotony of the triumphs of the ball was an excellent innings by the brother of the Oxford captain, Mr R C N Palairet. The weather, too, almost suited the cricket, and the spectators experienced the whole time a gloomy and cold atmosphere, with rain frequently threatening.

Somerset's record has been full of disaster this season, but yesterday they threw plenty of spirit into their play, bowling and fielding very well, and having at the wicket the Rev A P Wickham in his best form; but late in the afternoon they had a misfortune in Mr Woods renewing an old strain which necessitated his retirement. With Richardson back in the side and Mr C M Wells, the Cambridge bowler, at liberty for the first time this season, Surrey perhaps had its strongest available forces.

Somerset, who won the toss, began their innings shortly after 12 o'clock, when quite a mist enveloped the ground. The early play gave quite a good impression of the kind of cricket that followed. Mr L C H Palairet was caught at slip before a run had been scored, and Lockwood bowled so well that three other wickets had fallen by the time the record reached 36. The Somerset captain made a couple of very fine drives to the boundary in his 18, otherwise the batting had so far been feeble in the extreme. Indeed, Mr R C N Palairet alone lent it any excellence; but while he got his runs Messrs Trask and Woods both stayed with him some time. He went in third wicket down at 25 and was seventh out – caught by third man – at 91, contributing no fewer than 50 of the 66 added during his stay on an hour. It was really a batting triumph to score 50 runs by such sound cricket on a bad wicket against the powerful Surrey bowlers. He gave no chance, and his chief hits were five fours, four threes and three twos.

After the eighth Somerset man had gone for 105 there was vigorous batting by Nichols, whose 24 was an innings of great merit. The visitors were in altogether about two hours and a quarter for their 132. Lockwood's five for 35 were the best bowling figures.

The Surrey innings opened in a bright fashion with the apparently easy scoring of Mr Shuter and Abel, but the clever stumping of the latter at 25 ushered in a series of disasters for them. Tyler's slow bowling troubled the batsmen a great deal, and Mr Woods at the other end, too, was difficult to play. Mr Shuter and the two Reads were all out by 54, and Tyler with successive balls dismissed Mr Key and Lockwood at 59. Six men had now been lost, but the utter discomfiture of the Surrey side was prevented by the steady and extremely cautious game of Baldwin, who kept up his end for an hour and 20 minutes and took out his bat for 21.

It was when the seventh wicket fell that Mr Woods had to give up bowling and retire because of straining his leg, and after he had left the field Nichols went on and got the last three men out for nine runs. Tyler, who bowled during the two hours over which the Surrey innings extended, secured five wickets for 47 runs. Surrey's score reached exactly 100, and Somerset were left with a lead of 32, the value of which was much increased by the condition of the wicket.

Seventy minutes were left for play, and in this time the visitors fared badly. Mr Hewett's 29 was the best innings in Somerset's second spell of batting, and it was only a remarkably clever catch in

the long-field that dismissed him at 61. Mr Woods and Bolus then played out time, the former having a man to run for him, and at the drawing of stumps at 7 o'clock Somerset were 111 runs on with three wickets to fall.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 15 July, page 13)

Somerset have at last broken the long series of disasters experienced by their cricketers this season, and yesterday, on the Oval, their victory of 39 runs against Surrey was well merited. The visitors, who had made 79 in the second innings for the loss of seven wickets, resumed their batting shortly before 12 o'clock.

In rather more than three-quarters of an hour 69 were added, and of this number Mr Woods's share was 52, which, with his 10 of the previous night, brought his figures to 62, made in an hour, by eight fours, three threes, six twos and singles. He was the last out, stumped, and the only error in his splendid innings was a difficult chance in the long field when his score was about 40. Bolus stayed while 32 were added, and Tyler was in with Mr Woods during the scoring of 46 runs in half an hour for the ninth partnership.

This unexpected resistance by the last few Somerset wickets placed Surrey in a trying position, for they had to make 181 for victory on a slow and false wicket. Tyler and Nichols bowled remarkably well and four of the Surrey team – Mr Shuter, Abel, Baldwin and Maurice Read – were dismissed for 28. Mr Key batted excellently and made a capital 18 out of the 26 obtained for the fifth wicket. After Mr Key had been bowled Brockwell and Mr Read made a stand, and had put on 42 runs in three-quarters of an hour, when there was a interruption of ten minutes because of the bad light. The score then stood at 96.

On resuming, Mr Woods went on to bowl, although his strain still troubled him. At 130 Tyler went on at the other end and at once caused Brockwell to play on. In an hour and 20 minutes 76 runs had been scored, and of these Brockwell had made 47, hitting two fours, three threes and seven twos. The sixth wicket fell at 130, and the other four were taken in a quarter of an hour for 11 runs. Mr Read was beautifully caught by Bolus running from cover point, Mr Wells fell to short slip (a dextrous catch), Wood was caught in the long field and Lockwood was bowled. It was a quarter to five when the innings closed for 141, and Somerset won by 39 runs.

13 July: SUSSEX v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/3/3999.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 14 July, page 11)

The Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday furnished a soft wicket for the Australians' match with Sussex, and the outcome of the slow pitch was naturally meagre scoring. With all their best men available, the county had the advantage of first innings, but of this they did not make the greatest use, and they were dismissed in two hours and a quarter for 107.

They had gone in after a delay of an hour by rain, and very early there was another interruption of 20 minutes. Four men were out for 42, but after luncheon Messrs Newham and Wilson effected a slight improvement by adding 31 for the fifth wicket. Then Messrs Trott and Bruce renewed their bowling triumphs, and Mr Wilson saw the dismissal of the rest of his side. He himself experienced a piece of good fortune, for when his figures were 18 he gave a very easy chance that was not accepted. Mr Trott's bowling figures came out remarkably well.

When the Australians began their innings Mr Bannerman was quickly out, but then Messrs Giffen and Lyons raised the figures from 15 to 74. The latter scored his 47 in three-quarters of an hour by eight fours, three twos and singles. Humphreys's lobbs now proved very effective, and at the close of the day the Australians, with four wickets to fall, were one run in front. The weather improved after a dull morning.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 15 July, page 13)

With the wicket helping the bowlers and the weather dull, there was an absence of much attractiveness in the cricket at Brighton yesterday, when the Australians easily won their match against Sussex. On Thursday night the colonials had scored 108 for six wickets, and yesterday the remaining four added 46. Humphreys's lobbs had been very effective and his analysis was six for 49.

With a deficit of 47 the county went in a second time, but such ill-fortune attended their batsmen that when the seventh left the figures were only 44. Subsequently an improvement was shown, and the Australians were set 68 to make for victory. Messrs Lyons and Giffen fared well, and the Australians won by eight wickets.

The effect of the results of last week's matches was to strengthen the position of Yorkshire at the head of the list, and also to widen the difference between the second and third – viz., Middlesex and Surrey. Subjoined are the present positions: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	10	7	2	1	5
Middlesex	9	6	3	0	3
Surrey	9	5	4	0	1
Kent	7	3	2	2	1
Lancashire	7	3	3	1	0
Notts	9	3	4	2	-1
Sussex	9	3	4	2	-1
Gloucestershire	8	2	5	1	-3
Somerset	8	1	6	1	-5

Monday 17 July, page 7: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

To-day at Lord's begins the first of the three representative matches between a picked England team and the Australians. For some days the first seven names have been definitely known, but the other four places were stated to rest between Mold, Ward, Lockwood, Flowers, Attewell and Maurice Read.

On Saturday Wainwright, of Yorkshire, was telegraphed to play, while, when Shrewsbury's answer that he could appear was received, the M.C.C. decided to let Lancashire have Ward for the match at Taunton, and Mold, Lockwood, Maurice Read and Wainwright were chosen to complete the representatives of England. Thus the team will consist of Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr F S Jackson, Mr G M'Gregor, Shrewsbury, Gunn, Peel, Wainwright, Maurice Read, Lockwood and Mold. Attewell is 12th man.

It is a very fine side, but whichever way the match goes it will doubtless secure much criticism. The absence of Mr W W Read was a little unexpected, although that batsman has rarely played up to his true form at the St John's-wood ground, and Briggs and Richardson were both mentioned as very probable candidates for the eleven. The Australians will not select their team until this morning.

17 July: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4000.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 July, page 12)

A more marked contrast between the scene at Lord's on Friday and Saturday last, when a joyous and aristocratic company assembled for the public school match, and the solid mass of spectators which gathered yesterday at headquarters it would be difficult to imagine. Those who watched the England batting took a critical interest in every ball, and only on rare occasions was applause indulged in, and then not to an extravagant extent.

Great care had been taken in the selector of the England team, which included a past member of the Cambridge eleven, Mr M'Gregor, and the present captain, Mr F S Jackson. Something like consternation was felt when it became known that Dr W G Grace had so injured his hand on Saturday at Bristol that he could not play. In his absence the team was captained by Mr Stoddart and his place filled by Flowers, a very wise choice considering the state of the ground. In addition to the four players mentioned there were Peel and Wainwright from Yorkshire; Maurice Read and Lockwood, Surrey; Shrewsbury and Gunn, Nottingham; and Mold, Lancashire. The Australians placed what is considered their best side in the field, so that, with the great exception of the Gloucestershire captain's absence, the elevens may be accepted as representative.

Long before the time set for the start had arrived streams of spectators thronged the St John's-wood-road, and the exact number who paid for admission was 12,233; these, with members, would probably make up a sum total of 15,000. The dull morning was succeeded by bright sunshine and the weather was in every way suited to cricket. Unfortunately the previous rains had rendered the ground slow and difficult, but the wicket improved as the day went on.

Although Shrewsbury's innings was an excellent display of patient defence and good cricket, the palm in the batting was carried off by Mr Jackson, who quite justified his place in the eleven, for, going in when England had lost two such good batsmen as Mr Stoddart and Gunn for 31, he completely altered the aspect of affairs by his brilliant hitting.

The Australians, having lost the toss, entered the field within a few minutes of noon. Shrewsbury and Mr Stoddart first represented England. Mr Turner began the bowling from the pavilion end, and off his second ball Shrewsbury made a bad stroke to leg and it went close to slip. The last ball of the over Mr Stoddart hit square for three. Mr Bruce was the other bowler. The second ball Mr Stoddart hit on the leg side for a couple, but the third was a most indifferent hit, the ball falling a little short of Mr Lyons at mid-on. After a maiden over from Mr Turner a lofty drive was made by Mr Stoddart over Mr M'Leod's head near the boundary, the fieldsman misjudging the ball. In Mr Bruce's next over the same batsman made a fine square-leg hit among themselves spectators, which caused the colonials to place Mr Graham to field there.

Mr Stoddart scored 20 out of the first 21 runs in 12 minutes. Mr Trumble came on for Mr Bruce at 22, with only slight variation in the placing of his men. Mr Turner got a deal of work on the ball and greatly troubled the batsmen, and Mr Stoddart was severely struck on the elbow. He was nearly caught at point and soon afterwards he played forward to a ball on which there was more work than he had judged and his off stump was struck. One for 29, obtained in a little under half an hour. Gunn appeared and in the same over made a couple by a square-leg hit, but in Mr Turner's next over the Notts player gave an easy catch to Mr Lyons, who was fielding very sharp at mid-on, but the ball was only held at the second attempt. Two for 31.

Mr Jackson, the Cambridge captain, was warmly cheered as he proceeded to the wicket at 12.40. He made a fine leg-hit for four, getting well hold of the ball and the next he sent to the on for a couple. A lull ensued, as three maiden overs were sent down in succession. Mr Trott was put on at 47. This bowler suited Mr Jackson to a nicety and he hit three successive balls to the leg boundary, which brought forth very hearty cheering. This took the score beyond 50 in the same number of minutes. Mr Trott did not bowl more than one over and Mr Turner resumed at 59. Shrewsbury ran into double figures at the end of an hour, when the score stood at 63. He then made a lofty off-hit for four and a couple by a five, the ball just going out of Mr Bruce's reach. Mr Trott was then given a trial at the nursery end for Mr Trumble. Six came in the over, Mr Jackson placing the ball well for four in front of square-leg. The last ball of [Trumble?]'s next over he sent beautifully to leg for four, his free hitting infusing great enthusiasm among the spectators.

Mr Trott only bowled one over and Mr M'Leod went on for him at 86, while three runs later Mr Giffen relieved Mr Turner. A very good over was then sent down by Mr Giffen, each ball of which was well played by Shrewsbury. Nothing came from it, but a couple to the on by the same batsman caused the 100 to be signalled after an hour and 25 minutes' play. Mr Jackson was missed by Mr Lyons running back from mid-on. It was an awkward catch and the batsman had then made 52. The play became quiet for a while until, at 122, Mr Turner superseded Mr M'Leod. Mr Jackson drove the first ball of the change high to the boundary. The batsmen were not separated when the interval arrived.

Subsequently Mr Trumble (pavilion) and Mr Bruce took up the attack. A hard chance was given to the wicket-keeper by Mr Jackson from Trumble, and the batsman profited at once by his escape, as the next ball he drove for four. The Cambridge captain gave a sharp chance to Mr Trumble at short-slip when he had made 83. The wicket was still helping the bowlers a great deal at both ends and the ball once got near to Shrewsbury's stumps. After a little quiet play Shrewsbury gave a hard

chance at extra mid-off to Mr Giffen, who ought to have run in for it; the batsman had then made 40. Mr Turner resumed bowling for Mr Trumble at 166, and in his second over Mr Jackson was well caught low down at wicket. He had played a brilliant innings of 91 out of 137 added for the third partnership, and was warmly cheered. He had been batting for an hour and three-quarters and among his hits were 13 fours, one three and eight twos. Three for 168.

Maurice Read joined Shrewsbury, who with an off-drive for four and a couple of singles completed his 50 after two hours and 35 minutes' batting. At this stage the fielding again became particularly keen. The Surrey player was in for a quarter of an hour before he had scored. When he had made six in 20 minutes he was bowled in playing back to Mr Bruce. He was never at home, and his place was taken by Peel at half-past 3, when half the wickets were down for 189.

From Mr Turner's bowling the ball kept popping up and Shrewsbury nearly played on. Just afterwards, this batsman seemed to twist his ankle; but after a few minutes' delay the game was resumed and he got a four to the on boundary, bringing up 200 at 3.40. Since the departure of Mr Jackson the play had been a little dull. Bowling changes were tried and Peel skied the ball to Mr Bruce at extra mid-off.

Flowers joined Shrewsbury at five minutes to 4. Fine fielding by Mr Graham at long-on stopped a very hard drive by the new comer. Ten runs were now made by Flowers in an over of Mr Giffen's, who was applauded for good fielding off his own bowling. A lucky four through the slips from Mr Bruce was made by Shrewsbury, while in the same over he secured a fine drive to the on boundary, causing the 250 to be telegraphed at 4.20. A double change in the attack was now tried, Messrs M'Leod and Trott going on. Shrewsbury passed Mr Jackson's total with an on-drive, and then made six by two leg-hits, which took his score to 99. Every ball he received was eagerly watched to see whether he would reach the three figures or not. This he did at ten minutes to 5 by driving a ball of Mr Trott's to the on-boundary amidst most deafening cheers. Flowers hit a ball of Mr M'Leod's to the ring. In the same over he was dismissed by a bailer and six wickets were down.

Wainwright came. Mr Turner resumed at the pavilion end, and in his second over Shrewsbury's fine innings was closed through an easy catch at wicket. He had been batting for four hours and a quarter, and his principal hits were nine fours, five threes and 17 twos. Seven for 298. Lockwood sent the score beyond the 300 and the innings closed at 5.35 for a total of 334, it having lasted five hours and 40 minutes.

Australia began batting at five minutes to 6. Peel started the attack from the nursery. Mr Lyons opened well by sending the first ball to the leg boundary and, getting a single, crossed over to receive the bowling of Lockwood. By the last ball of his second over Mr Lyons was bowled, leg stump. One for seven. Without alteration in the score Mr Giffen was dismissed by the same bowler. Mr Trott joined Mr Bannerman and, although Mold was tried for Peel, these played out time . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 July, page 11)

The capacity of the Australians to play against heavy odds was once more demonstrated at Lord's yesterday. On Monday England had, apparently, got all the best of the game, for they had scored the heavy total of 334 and had dismissed two of their most dangerous opponents for 33. In the first hour of yesterday's play it seemed quite probable that the colonials would suffer a single innings defeat, for, owing to Lockwood's destructive bowling, they had lost half the wickets to him for 75

runs, or 180 short of the number necessary to prevent the follow-on.

Then came one of the changes so characteristic of cricket. Messrs Gregory and Graham were in company and, after playing a more lively game than their predecessors, they got thoroughly set and for an hour and 35 minutes successfully defied all the varied attempts to separate them. In this time there were, of course, many bowling changes, but whether it was wise, after taking Lockwood off at the pavilion end (when he had secured five wickets), apparently for a rest, to put him on at the nursery end is an open question. True, he ultimately separated the batsmen there, but at a great cost.

It is not the first occasion on which Mr Graham and Mr Gregory have turned out so dangerous. The former just managed to top Shrewsbury's score by a single, and his runs were obtained in a fine, easy style. Before the end of the day England, who had lost Mr Stoddart at 27, quite got back the game, as they were 178 runs on and had nine wickets to fall.

The ground had recovered itself in a wonderful manner after being played on while it was so soft on Monday, and much credit is due to Pearce for furnishing so excellent a wicket under such trying circumstances. Of this the Australians had the full benefit throughout the greater part of yesterday. The fielding of England, although redeemed by many fine features, was frequently disappointing. There was again a large company long before half-past 11, and those who paid for admission numbered 12,410, while there was a greater number of members. The weather was again bright and cheerful.

The game was continued within a few minutes of half-past 11, when the wicket played much faster than on Monday. Both the bowling and fielding were good. Mr Bannerman (9) and Mr Trott (4) resumed their batting. Peel led off with a maiden from the nursery. Mr Trott made a bad hit over slip's head, but Mr Bannerman sent Lockwood finely to leg for four. The close fielding and the smart returns were loudly cheered. Eight runs were the product of nine overs, and then Mr Bannerman was out to a wonderful left-handed catch at point, Shrewsbury taking the ball with his elbow on the ground. Three for 50.

Mr M'Leod came out for an addition ten in eight overs. A beautiful ball from Lockwood struck the top of the middle stump and sent the bail about 39 yards away; at least, Mr Jackson made this number of strides from the spot where it fell to the wicket. Four for 60. Mr Gregory joined Mr Trott, who made a very crisp cut to the ring. A single only came from four overs. Peel had been bowling very well, but as no wicket fell Mr Jackson was tried for him at 70. the batting of Mr Trott had been excellent, although runs came at a very slow rate. When five had been added this batsman fell to a smart catch at wicket. He had played a fine, careful innings, and was an hour and 20 minutes getting his 33.

Mr Graham arrived, and a very risky single had the effect of producing a fine piece of work between Peel at third man and Mr M'Gregor, but the batsmen escaped. After a late cut for three by Mr Gregory the cricket became a little more lively, several sharp singles being made. These were followed by a capital off-drive to Mr Graham from the Cambridge captain. Immediately afterwards Mr Gregory drove Lockwood to the on-boundary, and then with a fine leg-hit caused the 100 to be telegraphed at five minutes past 1, after a couple of hours' play.

Mr Graham gave a hard return chance to Lockwood. The game was a little more brisk, and Mold, who had relieved Mr Jackson, gave up the ball to Wainwright at 113, while half-a-dozen runs later Lockwood was relieved by Mold. The Surrey bowler had been on for an hour and three-quarters at a stretch. Mr Graham thrice cut Wainwright for four in an over. Indeed, the changes had only

increased the pace of run-getting, and 50 were put on in 36 minutes. Mr Graham infused life into the game and made seven in three successive hits. Peel went on for Wainwright at 145. Still the batsmen were not checked. Twelve runs were obtained in an over of Peel's, and this enabled Mr Graham to complete his 50, and the 150 to be passed, at 1.35.

Lockwood was tried at the nursery wicket, for so fast had been the scoring that in the first hour of the partnership 97 were added. Mr Graham, when he had made 57, gave a very hard chance to Shrewsbury high up at point. He also had a narrow escape at the hands of the wicket-keeper, standing back. As an example of how keenly the spectators were watching the match there was a hearty cheer when Messrs Graham and Gregory had put on 100 in 65 minutes. Flowers was tried for an over before luncheon, but, although Mr Gregory seemed to give a chance at slip from Lockwood, the total was then advanced to 195.

Subsequently Wainwright (pavilion) and Lockwood took charge of the bowling. Mr Gregory caused the "200" to be signalled after three hours' play. Mr Graham drove the Surrey man well to the on, and then a single was turned into five through an overthrow by Gunn at third man. In the over that this happened Mr Gregory was finely caught high up by the wicket-keeper. The partnership, which had lasted an hour and 35 minutes, yielded 142 runs. Among Mr Gregory's hits were four fours, eight threes and two twos.

When Mr Bruce came in, at 3.10, there were only 38 wanted to save the follow-on and four wickets to fall. Beyond a hit to the spectators by each batsman only their sharp running kept the game alive. At 234 Flowers displaced Wainwright. Mr Graham's batting was closely watched as he approached the 100, and at 98 he gave a sharp chance to Shrewsbury (right hand) at point. Loud cheers rang round the ground when he reached the three figures, after two hours' batting, and these were renewed heartier than ever when, at a quarter to four, the follow-on was saved. Mold came on for Lockwood at 257, and in his second over Mr Graham was finely caught at wicket. Although he had given hard chances when he was 14, 57 and 98, it was a fine innings and comprised one five, 12 fours, two threes, nine twos &c. Seven for 264.

The last three wickets went for five runs – Mr Turner played on without scoring, Mr Bruce went through an easy catch at slip and Mr Blackham was l-b-w. The innings had extended over four hours and 20 minutes for 269. Time 4.10.

England, with 65 in hand, started their second attempt at half-past 4. Shrewsbury and Mr Stoddart were opposed by Mr Turner and Mr M'Leod. Having injured his leg while batting, Mr Gregory was allowed Mr W Giffen to field for him. The opening was very tame, and when eight (half of which were byes) had been obtained in six overs Shrewsbury gave a hard chance to point, Mr Trott striving to get the ball at the second attempt. The Notts batsman then drove Mr Turner for four and sent Mr M'Leod to the square-leg boundary, while Mr Stoddart made a late cut for which four were run. At 27, however, the Middlesex player was clean bowled.

Gunn came, and after being in a quarter of an hour for a single he drove Mr M'Leod finely to the on boundary. Mid-West Shrewsbury sent the opposite bowler to the off for four. Otherwise the play had been very quiet and at the end of an hour 43 were recorded. Then the hitting became freer. Shrewsbury twice drove Mr Turner to the off for four, the ball on the first occasion going over Mr Bannerman's head. Eleven runs came in an over, made up of an off-drive for four and leg-hit for three to Shrewsbury, while Gunn made an on-drive to the spectators. At 64 Mr Giffen superseded Mr Turner and Mr Trumble relieved Mr M'Leod. From the latter change Gunn made a fine off-drive for four. This batsman also sent a ball of Mr Giffen's to leg for three, and again he drove Mr

Trumble for four. This caused the latter to give way to Mr Bruce at 89.

An ineffectual appeal for leg-before-wicket against Gunn preceded some very quiet play. The dullness was broken by a couple on the leg side to Gunn, which brought up the 100, after an hour and 50 minutes. Shrewsbury and, indeed, both batsmen continued to exercise the greatest care. Their play was good, however, although, beyond another drive for four by Gunn off Mr Trott, who had gone on in place of Mr Bruce, nothing else to speak of transpired . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 20 July, page 11)

At Lord's yesterday acute disappointment was felt that the first of the representative matches with the Australians could not be finished. The visitors had played up so well on Tuesday as to leave great interest in the game for the last day. Although, as the record stood, England were 178 on with nine wickets to fall, yet, with the turf slightly assisting the bowlers, the case of the Colonials was not hopeless.

Shrewsbury and Gunn in the early part of the day batted so well as to place England in a pretty safe position, but Mr Giffen came on very effectively with his bowling and caused three wickets to fall at the same total. However, by luncheon, England was already 299 on, but it was not until after the interval, and rain had delayed play until a quarter past 3, that they declared their innings closed. Thus the Australians had 300 set them to win and three hours left to play. Unfortunately, although the rain stopped once sufficiently for the wicket to be rolled, it came on again and stumps were drawn at 5 o'clock.

Shrewsbury at one time looked like getting his second hundred, and had he done so it would have been a record for the England v Australia matches. There yet remain two representative contests to be played – one at the Oval and the other at Manchester.

Punctually at half-past 11 the Australians entered the field, and a few minutes later, Shrewsbury (45) and Gunn (43) took up their positions. Mr Turner bowled from the pavilion and Mr Bruce was put on at the other end. Shrewsbury obtained three by a lucky hit. Among other items Gunn sent a ball of Mr Turner's to leg for four and cut Mr Bruce through the slips to the boundary. At 148, Mr Trumble superseded Mr Turner. Steady play followed, and Gunn gave a possible return chance, Mr Bruce just touching the ball with his right hand. A fine drive to the pavilion rails by Shrewsbury caused the 150 to be signalled at ten minutes past 12.

Two runs later Mr Turner went on at the nursery end. The scoring of the batsmen was now very even, a leg hit to Shrewsbury causing each of them to be credited with 64. Another four was made by Shrewsbury to the off boundary from Mr Turner. A twofold change in the attack was now adopted, Messrs Giffen and M'Leod going on. From the former Gunn was splendidly caught at long-field-on but Mr Graham, who had to run some yards and turn round to get the ball. He had been batting for two hours and 20 minutes, and among his hits were eight fours, four threes and 11 twos, no fewer than 152 having been put on since the fall of the previous wicket.

Mr Jackson came and skied the ball to the on side, but Mr Bruce at square-leg misjudged it, running in too late. An appeal against Shrewsbury for leg-before was answered in his favour. Mr Jackson was soon out to a well-judged catch in front of square-leg. Three for 195. Maurice Read came, and Mr Bruce at once resumed in place of Mr M'Leod. This proved a correct move, as the last-comer was soon caught at extra mid-off. Rain now (five minutes past 1) stopped play for a quarter of an

hour.

The second ball afterwards Shrewsbury was bowled, and the fourth proved disastrous to Lockwood. The Nottinghamshire batsman had been in for three hours and a half, his principal figures being nine fours, three threes and ten twos. The fourth, fifth and sixth wickets all fell at 198. Flowers and Wainwright were together at 25 minutes past 1. The latter seemed beaten by every ball sent him until he made a lofty drive to the boundary over Mr Graham's head. This caused 200 to be telegraphed at half-past 1. Flowers gave a very hard chance to point, Mr Trott making two attempts to get the ball. Mr Giffen was now bowling well and got a lot of work on. Wainwright was nearly run out, Mr Graham throwing down the wicket from leg. Mr Turner came on for Mr Bruce at 219, and in his opening over Wainwright drove him to the off for four, but in the next he was nearly beaten by a ball which went for four byes. Flowers, who had been in half an hour for four, was clean bowled, and Wainwright played on just before 2 o'clock, both wickets falling at the same total – 234. The luncheon interval was now taken, during which rain fell slightly, and it stopped play until a quarter past 3, when England declared their innings closed.

The wicket was rolled at half-past 3, but the match was eventually given up as a draw on account of the continuous rain.

17 July: SOMERSET v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4001.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 July, page 12)

The bad weather which preceded a fine afternoon considerably curtailed the hours of play at Taunton yesterday; yet, although the cricket was delayed until 3 o'clock, the match made good progress. Both sides were strong. The pitch always assisted the bowlers, but the turf improved.

Going in first, Lancashire did fairly well up to a certain point, although, after the first five wickets had yielded 95 runs, the end of the innings came so rapidly that the other batsmen increased the figures by only 26. A Ward played steadily for his 44, staying an hour and three-quarters, and hitting three fours, four threes and six twos. The best partnership was that of 30 by A Ward and Baker for the fifth wicket. Lancashire were in altogether two and a quarter hours, and made 121.

Somerset went in for 50 minutes, but lost half their side for 51; four of them fell to Oakley's bowling at a cost of 27 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 July, page 11)

Somerset got the better of the cricket on the bowler's pitch at Taunton yesterday, and by the time stumps were drawn they were certainly in a very hopeful position. Monday had seen the completion of Lancashire's first innings of 121 and the fall of five Somerset wickets for 51. Frank Ward bowled with considerable effect, and although Mr Hewett made 22 the remaining batsmen added only 48 runs in three-quarters of an hour. He went on to bowl at 74 and took four wickets in six overs and four balls for 14 runs.

Lancashire's second venture lasted two and a quarter hours and yielded only 119 runs. Briggs's 25 was the highest score, but Ward batted with every care and was in an hour and a quarter for 22. Nichols had again taken a prominent part in the dismissal of the Lancastrians.

Somerset wanted 141 for victory. The showery weather which followed the bright morning made the wicket much easier, and the home eleven thus experienced a piece of good fortune. The start was not promising for the batting side, as Messrs Palaret and Hewett were disposed of for 29 runs. But subsequently Mr Hedley played fine cricket and, aided by Mr Poynton, raised the figures to 82. He had gone in first wicket down at seven and was third out, after scoring 54 of the 75 obtained during his stay of an hour and a quarter; His chief hits were five fours, six threes and four twos. When play ended for the day Somerset, with seven wickets to fall, wanted 59 to win.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 20 July, page 11)

At Taunton, yesterday, this match was advanced to a very exciting stage, and then the rain came and prevented further play. The weather had already delayed the start for an hour, when Somerset renewed their attempt to get 141 for victory, 82 having been made overnight at a cost of only three wickets.

Mr Woods threw considerable vigour into the play and with Mr Poynton added 32 in half an hour.

Three wickets now quickly fell, and soon after Bolus arrived rain stopped the game, when Somerset wanted 23 to win with four wickets in hand. The rain continued, and about half-past 4 it increased to a downpour, causing every hope of more cricket to be abandoned. Thus was the match drawn.

17 July: DERBYSHIRE v YORKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128147.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 18 July, page 12)

Yorkshire greatly missed the services of their two chief bowlers, Peel and Wainwright (who were away at Lord's) yesterday, when at Derby they were kept in the field the whole of the day.

Messrs Wright and Evershed scored 96 for the first wicket, and afterwards Chatterton played excellently, going in second wicket down at 113 and taking out his bat for 101. His innings lasted altogether three hours and a half, and, beyond a hard return chance to Wardall with the score at 76, his play was faultless. The chief contributions were a five, nine fours, four threes and nine twos. Mr Evershed played vigorously, making 72 out of 112 in an hour and 25 minutes by a six (a drive), nine fours, two threes, five twos and singles.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 July, page 11)

Yesterday, at Derby, the visitors were playing an uphill fight the whole of the time, and the prospect of a finish pointed to their defeat. In the early part of the day the cricket was characterized by the fine bowling of Hulme, who took the first five wickets at a cost to himself of only 18 runs.

Lord Hawke improved Yorkshire's affairs with a capital 48, made in an hour and a half, which included six fours, a three and three twos, and he, with Ulyett, added 43 for the seventh wicket. However, Yorkshire were out soon after luncheon and followed on with arrears of 180.

Half the side went for 77, but then came some stubborn defence by Brown, Moorhouse and Ulyett. The two first-named put on 50 runs, and Ulyett and Moorhouse afterwards advanced the figures to 154.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 20 July, page 11)

To the fine stand by Moorhouse and Hunter for the last wicket and to the rain were Yorkshire indebted, at Derby, yesterday, for the prevention of defeat.

Tuesday evening had found them in a bad position, as with only three men to lose in the second venture they had yet to get 26 to avoid an inning's beating, and yesterday when Hunter, the last batsman, arrived 11 runs were still wanted. Moorhouse, who had made 31 overnight in an hour and a half, continued to play excellently and, with Hunter, put on another 62 in an hour. He finally took out his bat for 78, in which were ten fours and seven twos.

Derbyshire, who required 52 to win, lost a couple of wickets before luncheon for 25. Rain then fell heavily and, after waiting until late in the day, it was decided to abandon the match.

17 July: ESSEX v HAMPSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128388.html)

Day 1 (no report or scorecard found from Tuesday 18 July, page 12)

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 19 July, page 11)

A remarkable scoring performance was achieved by Essex in this match, played at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, on Monday and yesterday. Indeed, it is the best score yet made by them in a county match.

Mr Lucas played in quite his old style for 175. In the double innings of the visitors Mr Kortright took ten wickets for 99 runs; and in Hampshire's second Mead was credited with six for 46. Essex won by an innings and 177 runs.

20 July: KENT v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4002.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 21 July, page 5)

The heavy rain prevented play in this match yesterday at the Private Banks' Ground, Catford-bridge. It was decided about 2 o'clock to give up all hope of starting until this morning at 11.30.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 July, page 10)

Yesterday found the wicket at Catford-bridge all in favour of the bowlers, who made so much use of their advantages that more than an innings each was played. Thursday's rain was succeeded by bright and enjoyable weather, and the cricket seemed to be keenly followed by the four or five thousand people who gathered on the pleasant ground of the Private Banks Club. The following was the interesting position of affairs when stumps were drawn . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 July, page 11)

The defeat of Surrey at Catford-bridge on Saturday, following almost immediately on their loss against Somerset, was in some ways surprising, for, although the position of affairs on Friday night left the question of success very open, it was generally thought that the champion county would manage to win. But the reverse was the case, and within half an hour of the time for drawing stumps an exciting finish terminated favourably for Kent. Glorious weather prevailed and there were about 5,000 spectators.

The wicket had considerably improved since Friday, but it was yet difficult and a little sawdust was still necessary to help the bowlers to get a foothold. Kent, who were 30 runs on with three wickets down, renewed their second innings at 11.40, when Messrs Wilson and Knowles continued their partnership, which had begun with the fall of three wickets for 15; their stand was invaluable to Kent. It lasted an hour and yielded 43 runs; the majority of these were made by Mr Knowles, who played the good Surrey bowling particularly well. He was sixth out at 99, a shooter from Brockwell bowling him off stump after he had been in an hour and 35 minutes for 42.

When the ninth wicket fell Kent's score was 116; but W Hearne and Wright made a vigorous stand for the tenth; the former contributed 20 out of the last 24, when he was caught at cover-point and the innings, after lasting two hours and a half, closed for 140.

Surrey, who had to make 143 to win, lost their captain before luncheon without a run being scored, and afterwards Maurice Read was well caught in the long-field, where George Hearne made his third excellent catch in the match, while Mr W W Read was bowled off stump. Three for 37 was the result of an hour's cricket. There followed a long spell of quietude; Baldwin, who joined Abel, played with extreme caution and to such an extent was the care carried that in the hour that this fourth partnership lasted only 23 runs were scored, of which number Baldwin made only six. Of course, the Kent bowling required much skill in defence, but it was thought the Surrey professionals should have attempted to quicken the pace of run-getting. Indeed, before the 50 went up an hour and 40 minutes had elapsed.

When Baldwin when at 60 the game changed with startling rapidity in favour of Kent. Mr Key was out to a dextrous catch at cover-point, and W Hearne, who had resumed bowling, disposed of Brockwell, both wickets falling at 69. Six men were now disposed of; but Mr Wells and Abel brightened the prospect with some good hits, and when the former played on the figures stood at 90. There were yet three wickets to fall with 53 runs to get, but Surrey's hopes fell when at 94 Abel, in playing forward, was clean bowled. He had been in three hours for 44, made without a fault, and had put together the highest score in each innings. Lockwood hit hard; but eventually both he and Wood fell to W Hearne, the latter playing on. Kent won by 22 runs.

W Hearne marked his reappearance for his county by taking ten wickets in the match for 89 runs. There was a scene of great enthusiasm at the close of the game.

20 July: LANCASHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4003.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 21 July, page 5)

At the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday, these counties were strongly represented, and at the end of the day the score stood as follows . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 July, page 10)

The failure of Middlesex last evening at Old Trafford to get 158 to win and their consequence defeat will come as a considerable disappointment to the friends of the metropolitan county. Although the wicket was rather favourable to the bowlers, no one could have expected the great southern batting side to succumb for 89 runs. Lancashire won by 68 runs.

20 July: SOMERSET v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4004.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 21 July, page 5)

Yesterday at Taunton the county occupied the wickets during the whole of the time that the weather admitted of cricket.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 July, page 10)

In consequence of heavy rain there was no further cricket in this match at Taunton yesterday. When play ceased on Thursday Somerset had completed a first innings of 119.

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 July, page 11)

Saturday's cricket at Taunton was full of interest and, although bad weather had limited the play of the first two days to the completion of the Somerset innings, a definite issue was reached about ten minutes before "time." The Australians won by six wickets, but they owed their success in no small degree to the attempts of the county to force the game in the second innings. Most of the home batsmen adopted hitting tactics, and with dire results against such a bowler as Mr Turner on a false wicket.

The little progress made up to Friday night, it would have been thought, have lessened some of the interest in the contest, yet the attendance did not show that such was the case, for there were about 5,000 spectators and the exciting play was enjoyed under favourable conditions, the sun shining brilliantly. But the last-mentioned fact the batsmen had some reason to regret, as, though the ground recovered considerably from the heavy rains, the heat soon rendered it treacherous, and on both sides the bowlers were able to get great work on the ball.

The Australians quickly lost Mr Lyons, but Mr Giffen and Mr Bannerman did so well that 50 were scored in 50 minutes. Mr Giffen made 36 out of 47 put on for the second wicket, but afterwards Mr Woods bowled with great effect; indeed, in his first seven overs he took four wickets for nine runs, and his full analysis was six for 26. Messrs Trumble and Turner hit vigorously for a few minutes, and in the end the colonials, after two hours, were out for 107. Mr Bannerman was in an hour and 25 minutes for his 21, being sixth to leave.

Somerset, who held a lead of 12 runs on the first innings, endeavoured to score freely in their second venture; but the breakdown of their batting quite startled the crowd, and in the course of an hour the county's second spell terminated for 64. Mr Turner bowled with wonderful success, taking seven wickets for 26 runs, which made his full record for the match 11 for 69.

The Australians wanted 77 to win and an hour and a half only left for play. Messrs Lyons and Bannerman were disposed of for 20, but Mr Giffen, for the second time in the match, played sterling cricket, and with Mr Trott advanced the score to 68, putting on 48 for the partnership. Mr Giffen's 45 was obtained without a chance in a little over an hour, and included four fours, three threes and four twos. Messrs Bruce and Gregory were together when the winning hit was made, and ten minutes before the time set for drawing stumps the Australians won by six wickets.

20 July: YORKSHIRE v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128792.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 21 July, page 5)

There was a good attendance of spectators at Dewsbury yesterday, when this match was begun in fine weather.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 July, page 10)

Play between these counties was continued yesterday at Dewsbury . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 July, page 11)

In spite of the courageous uphill fight of Warwickshire in this match at Dewsbury, Saturday saw Yorkshire score a very substantial victory. Lilley and Dewey's long stand for the eighth wicket was the chief cause of Warwickshire's second score. Lilley made his 61 in an hour by seven fours, two threes, seven twos and singles, while Dewey was in a little less time for 49, made by seven fours, six twos and singles.

Yorkshire wanted only 46 to win, and after Mr Sellers had been run out Wardall and Mr Frank hit them off in 40 minutes, Yorkshire being successful by nine wickets.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128142.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 21 July, page 5)

A downpour of rain yesterday rendered play in this match on the Hove Ground, Brighton, quite impracticable. The game, should the weather permit, will be started at half-past 11 to-day.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 July, page 10)

This match was begun on the Hove Ground at Brighton yesterday. When play ceased for the day, the score stood as follows . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 July, page 11)

At the Hove Ground, Brighton, on Saturday, there was a full day's cricket. When stumps were drawn on the previous evening Sussex had finished an innings for 217 and seven Hampshire wickets were down for 113.

The visitors thus required 25 to avoid the follow on. Captain Wynyard (not out 52) augmented his total to 79, and so well did Baldwin bat that the innings realized 168. Sussex, with 49 in hand, went in a second time. Mr Newham batted well for his 58, and about 4 o'clock, when 194 had been secured for six wickets, the innings was closed. Hampshire had two hours and a quarter left for batting, and 244 set them to win.

Sussex had thus placed themselves in safety so far as defeat was concerned, but at the same time they could not have bargained for the free hitting of their rivals. Mr Robson batted freely and Captain Wynyard again played in fine style, and he scored 120 runs in the game. When the end of the day arrived Hampshire had lost five wickets for 163, and the match was drawn . . .

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/124/124184.html)

Day 1 (scorecard but no report from Friday 21 July, page 5)

Day 2 (report from Saturday 22 July, page 10)

Great progress was made in this match at Lord's during the past two days. Indeed, the wet weather did not seem to interfere so much with the game at headquarters as elsewhere . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 24 July, page 11)

A far keener struggle for victory was made by the county on Saturday in this match at Lord's than had been anticipated, and at one time it seemed almost within their grasp. When play ceased on Friday night Leicestershire required 216 to win and had seven wickets in hand.

The batting on Saturday was very determined, and at the fall of the ninth wicket 28 runs only were wanted to win. Mr Marriott seemed well set, while Whiteside batted carefully, and 17 of these were obtained, when the latter had the mishap to run himself out. Thus Marylebone were the winners by ten runs.

Lancashire's victory over Middlesex and Kent's defeat of Surrey strengthens Yorkshire's position at the head of the counties, and the relative places of the nine leading shires are now as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	10	7	2	1	5
Middlesex	10	6	4	0	2
Kent	8	4	2	2	2
Lancashire	9	4	3	2	1
Surrey	10	5	5	0	0
Nottinghamshire	9	3	4	2	-1
Sussex	9	3	4	2	-1
Gloucestershire	8	2	5	1	-3
Somerset	9	1	6	2	-5

In this table, drawn matches are not reckoned, while the losses are deducted from the wins.

24 July: LANCASHIRE v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4005.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 July, page 11)

At the Aigburth grounds, Liverpool, there were about 4,000 people present yesterday to witness the match between these counties. Having won the toss, Lancashire took possession of a wicket which appeared to be in good order at five minutes past 12.

The batsmen did so well that up to the interval they had obtained 109 for two wickets. Mr M'Laren played steadily for his 14, while Sugg was credited with 31 out of 46 for the second wicket. During this time A Ward had been batting well and was ably assisted by F Ward. The former was fifth to leave, caught at wicket, with the score at 129; he had been batting for two hours and 20 minutes. His chief figures were eight fours, a three and a couple of twos. The innings extended over three hours and 40 minutes for 189.

Somerset started badly by losing Messrs L C H Palairet, Poynton and Hedley for 24 runs. Messrs Spurway and Fowler both batted well, and when 90 runs had been registered in 80 minutes stumps were drawn for the day.

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

About 4,000 people visited the Aigburth Ground, Liverpool, yesterday, to witness the continuance of this match. On Monday Lancashire were disposed of for 189, while Somerset had lost three batsmen for 90 runs. The remaining seven wickets of the visitors were secured in an hour for an additional 54, and no fewer than six of these fell to Mold for 35 runs.

Lancashire began their second innings with 45 on. A Ward and Sugg hit so vigorously that in an hour before luncheon they had scored 122, and after the interval the advanced the total to 140 before they were separated. This was brought about by Tyler clean bowling Sugg, who had been batting an hour and 25 minutes for his 88, in which were 14 fours, a three and three twos. A Ward was in two hours and a half for his 92, and was third out at 220. His principal figures were one five (four from an overthrow), 13 fours and seven twos. Neither he nor Sugg had given a chance.

Half the wickets were down for 273, but the other five only added 17 runs. Somerset now wanted 336 to win, and at the end of the day 57 were obtained at the cost of a wicket.

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

Rain had so far affected the wicket on the Aigburth Ground, Liverpool, that play in this match yesterday was delayed until 1 o'clock. On Tuesday evening, Somerset went in to get 336 to win, and had lost Mr Palairet for 57.

Mr Poynton did not add to the 16 obtained by him overnight. Indeed, the wicket so well suited the bowling of Briggs and Mold that, with the exception of Mr Fowler and Mr Woods, the batsmen could make scarcely any headway and only 48 runs were added, the total reaching 105. Briggs in the hour's play took six wickets in 11 overs for 24 runs. From the complete score it will be seen

that Lancashire won by 230 runs.

24 July: MIDDLESEX v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4006.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 July, page 11)

No small disappointment was felt at Lord's yesterday when it became known that several of the most prominent Middlesex cricketers were not taking part in the match against the Colonials. Mr Stoddart was suffering from an injured knee, while Mr M'Gregor had some time since intimated that he would not be able to play. In addition, neither Mr A J Webbe nor Mr P J T Henery were included in the eleven. Their places were taken by Mr R S Lucas, Mr J Westhorp, Mr H H Cornish and J E West.

Having won the toss, the Australians sent in Messrs Lyons and Bannerman. The attack was started from the pavilion end by Hearne. From his fourth ball Mr Lyons was secured by the wicket-keeper, in his next over Mr Giffen was bowled, off stump, while in the third he struck Mr Bannerman's leg stump. None of these batsmen had scored. Messrs Trott and Bruce were now together. It took 35 minutes to obtain 20, and three runs later a ball of Hearne's striking Mr Bruce's wicket, the bail was sent a distance of 40 yards.

Further mishaps befell the visitors. Mr Gregory was taken at slip and Mr Trott was caught out to a good catch at mid-off by Mr Ford. Mr Trumble cut Rawlin for three, and he was sent to the on boundary by Mr Graham, who in the same over fell to a catch at slip. Seven for 43 was a very poor outlook for the Australians, which was not improved upon when Mr M'Leod's leg stump was bowled and the top of Mr Turner's wicket struck. None for 56.

Mr Blackham made six by a couple of drives, but should soon afterwards have been stumped. Now came a change. Mr Trumble hit a ball of Hearne's to the boundary, and was then credited with four to the pavilion rails from Rawlin, off whom 11 were made in an over. Mr Cornish relieved him at 85, this being the first change. It rather accelerated the run-getting, and the 100 was signalled after an hour and three-quarters' play. Mr Trumble made a dozen by a leg-hit and two cuts, all to the boundary. At the interval the score stood at 117, and the first ball afterwards Mr Blackham skied easily to point, but Mr O'Brien missed it. The Australian captain profited by his escape and made a dozen from Hearne in three hits; two of these were cuts in one over. A double change in the attack was tried, Mr Douglas and Phillips going on. From the latter change Mr Blackham was caught by West at wicket, this fieldsman having failed to stump him when he had made seven. The last partnership had yielded 91 in 55 minutes. Mr Trumble carried out his bat for a well-played 61, in which were nine fours, two threes and four twos. Hearne's bowling had been excellent, and up to the fall of the ninth wicket his analysis was 15 overs (5 maidens), 20 runs, 7 wickets.

Middlesex started batting at 25 minutes past 3 with Messrs Douglas and Ford. The bowling was intrusted to Mr Turner (pavilion) and Mr M'Leod. The batsmen opened brilliantly. Mr Douglas drove the former for four and Mr Ford hit the other bowler to the off and cut him to the boundary in the same over. Mr Trumble came on at the nursery and Mr Douglas soon returned the ball, and the second sent him Mr Scott played on, while in Mr Turner's next Mr Ford was caught at extra mid-off. One, two and three for 27.

Both Rawlin and Mr Westhorp were bowled, and half the wickets were down for 32. When Mr O'Brien and Phillips became partners 36 runs were yet wanted to save the follow on. The former obtained a dozen runs in three hits, but at 46 he and Mr Phillips were both bowled. A single later,

two other wickets fell, and when Hearne (the last man) joined West 21 were required to prevent the "follow." This they did easily. The former made eight in an over of Mr Trumble's, and the latter obtained the same number from Mr Turner with an off-drive and leg-hit. It was not until 31 had been put on for the last wicket that Hearne was out – l-b-w. Total, 78; length of innings, 1 hour 10 min.

The Australians, with 69 runs on, opened their second venture a few minutes before five o'clock with Messrs Lyons and Bannerman. Hearne led the bowling from the pavilion end, and the first ball sent him Mr Lyons drove to the on for four, but in the same over Mr Bannerman's off stump was struck. Mr Giffen came and cut Phillips through the slips for five. Mr Lyons then made a splendid hit; he was batting at the pavilion end and drove the ball right over the new stand on the nursery side. Rawlin relieved Phillips at 31. Mr Lyons made three fours in an over from Hearne, who at 54 gave way to Mr Douglas. The second ball of the change Mr Lyons drove to the off boundary, and in the next over this batsman completed his 50, after 40 minutes' play. He then lost Mr Giffen – clean bowled. Two for 64. Only a couple were added, and a ball from Mr Douglas completely beat Mr Lyons. He had been about three-quarters of an hour getting his 51.

With Messrs Trumble and Trott in runs still came at a very fair pace, and an off-drive to the spectators by the latter shot the total up to 100 after a few moments over an hour's play. Hearne and Mr Ford were now put on. A dozen runs were made in an over from the latter, and at 126 Mr Westhorp relieved him. The run-getting, however, continued to triumph, and no other wicket had fallen when stumps were drawn. The Australians are playing the same team as that which met England. There was a large company during the afternoon.

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

At Lord's yesterday the wicket played much easier than at the start of this match, and the Australians opened their batting freely. On the previous day each side had completed an innings, and the visitors, with 69 in hand, had lost three wickets for 144. Messrs Trott and Trumble (the not-outs, with 52 and 24) opposed the bowling of Hearne (pavilion end) and Rawlin at 11.40.

Twenty-nine runs were made in the first quarter of an hour, in which Mr Trott secured 12 by a cut and two drives, and Mr Trumble seven by two cuts. As ten had been made in an over from Hearne, he gave way to Mr Douglas at 173. This had the required effect, for in his second over Mr Trumble was well caught at wicket. Four for 176.

On the arrival of Mr Gregory the 200 was soon signalled. At 212 Mr Douglas gave way to Hearne. In the opening over Mr Trott had a lucky four to the canvas, which completed his 100 after an hour and three-quarters' batting. Phillips was tried at 219 for Rawlin. Yet runs came freely, and at 234 Mr Cornish was put on, but, as this did not suit, Mr Lucas relieved him at the nursery end, while at 258 Mr Westhorp displaced Hearne. From the latter change Mr Trott made a very fine off-drive to the spectators. This batsman then obtained 15 in a couple of overs, which completed his 1,000 runs in all matches. Having driven Mr Lucas to the on boundary, Mr Trott was clean bowled. He had been batting two hours and 35 minutes, while in his 145 (which is his highest score of the tour) were 22 fours, six threes and seven twos. Half the wickets were now down for 294.

Mr Graham was bowled for a couple and Mr Bruce joined Mr Gregory. The 300 was signalled after three hours and a half's batting. Five runs later Rawlin went on for Mr Lucas. Mr Bruce was well caught at point, the total at the interval being 319 for seven batsmen. Mr M'Leod, who

accompanied Mr Gregory to the wickets afterwards, was clean bowled at 334 and Mr Turner filled the vacancy. At 342 Hearne relieved Mr Ford. Mr Douglas superseded Hearne at 384. The 400 was reached at 20 minutes to 4 by a drive from Mr Gregory, and in the same over this batsman passed his 100 with a hit for four.

Still runs came freely, in spite of bowling changes, Mr Turner reaching his 50 at ten minutes to 4. At length, when the total had been advanced to 442, Phillips was put on, and from his first ball Mr Gregory was caught at mid-on; he had been batting three hours for the highest score ever made by him in England, and his principal figures were ten fours, five threes and 17 twos. Mr Blackham, as usual, brought up the rear, but when 15 were added he obstructed his wicket, Mr Turner carrying out his bat for 65. Time, 4.15; duration of innings, 5 hours 25 minutes.

Middlesex, who were 526 behind, began their second venture at half-past 4 with Messrs Ford and Douglas. Mr M'Leod opened the attack from the nursery end and Mr Turner from the pavilion. Twenty-three runs came from three overs. When 37 were recorded Mr Giffen relieved Mr Turner. In his second over Mr Douglas hit the ball to the leg side, and in the next this batsman drove a ball to the on which just stopped short of the furthest boundary, and five were run for it. Fifty were made at the rate of two runs a minute.

Mr M'Leod gave way at 68 to Mr Trumble, whose first ball clean bowled Mr Ford. Mr Douglas was next bowled. Two for 73. Mr Westhorp remained while 12 were added, and then Mr Trumble gave way to Mr Trott, off whose third ball Mr Westhorpe was easily stumped. Rawlin fell to a catch at cover-point at 99, and Mr O'Brien joined Mr Scott. The 100 was passed at 6 o'clock. Eleven runs later Mr O'Brien was caught at mid-on, and then Mr Scott placed the ball tamely into slip's hands. Six for 114. Phillips only survived a few overs before being caught at wicket. Seven for 116. Messrs Lucas and Cornish remained together until within a minute of half-past 6, when Mr Lucas was stumped. Eight for 129.

As there were only two wickets to fall it was decided to play on. Mr Cornish was bowled and West was run out. Total, 136. From the full score it will be seen that the Australians won by 390 runs.

24 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4007.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 July, page 11)

A great batting feat was achieved by Nottinghamshire at Trent-bridge yesterday in the first of their match with Kent, whom they meet in the return during Canterbury Week.

Mr J A Dixon, the home captain, carried off the honours of the day with 139, which is the best score he has ever made for the county, his previous highest innings being 109 against Lancashire three years ago. Although not wholly free from errors, his play yesterday was excellent and varied, combining fine defence and free hitting. He went in first and was out at 265, having been at the wickets four and three-quarter hours; his chief hits were 11 fours, nine threes and 16 twos. Shrewsbury and Mr Dixon put on 90 for the first wicket in two hours, the former hitting five fours, two threes and five twos.

The great partnership of the day was between Mr Dixon and Gunn, who were together two hours and three-quarters and put on 175. Gunn, who is still not out, gave a hard chance to mid-on when his score was 47; he has been in so far three and a half hours. The cricket sometimes grew dull but the Kent fielding was brisk and, in spite of the long day, the mistakes were few. Notts are trying Mr A R Bennett, of the Castle club, and Hardy, a professional from Kimberley.

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

There was a remarkably good day's play in this match at Trent-bridge yesterday, when the cricket furnished two individual scores of three figures, between which a marked contrast was noticeable. While Gunn exhibited his characteristic caution and finish, the spectators saw a different kind of batting altogether in the free and attractive game of Mr T N Perkins, of this year's Cambridge eleven, who has never before played such an important part in a first-class match.

Notts, who had made 288 for three wickets, occupied two and a quarter hours in finishing their innings for an addition of 127 runs. Their score of 415 extended over seven hours and three-quarters, so that this long time would naturally infer considerable quietude in the play. Gunn, from beginning to end, exercised every care, and his 129 took him five hours and a half to make; beyond an escape at mid-on when his figures were 47 he gave no chance, and his innings consisted of four fours, seven threes, 20 twos and 52 singles. Flowers helped Gunn to add 44 for the fourth wicket and Attewell hit with some freedom, but Daft was in 50 minutes for 22.

Kent went in before luncheon and lost four wickets for 46; but then came Mr Perkins's brilliant batting; he made 109 in two and a half hours, and hit 12 fours, seven threes and 11 twos.

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

Kent played a fine uphill game against their powerful opponents at Trent Bridge and got within 48 of the heavy score put together by the home county. This was a great achievement, considering that the first four of the Kent batsmen were out for 46 runs.

When the match was resumed yesterday morning the visitors were still 185 behind, and as only four wickets were left the chances were rather against the follow-on being saved. Mr Le Fleming, however, who had batted so well overnight when assisting Mr Perkins to add 75, gave further trouble, and with the Rev F Meyrick-Jones obtained 93 in 80 minutes for the seventh partnership. He was then out for a fine 74, made in two hours and a half by five fours, nine threes, seven twos and singles. Beyond a sharp chance at wicket when 48, his innings was free from fault. The Rev F Meyrick-Jones stayed until the follow-on had been averted, being ninth to leave at 348. His 62 occupied an hour and three-quarters and included eight fours, three threes and four twos. Kent's innings realized 367 as the result of five hours and three-quarters' play. During the morning 137 had been put on.

Of course when Kent had saved the follow-on there remained scarcely any probability of the match being played out. Shrewsbury and Flowers started the second venture of Nottinghamshire, but both were out when ten runs had been scored. Mr Dixon and Gunn then played carefully, advancing the figures to 50, and put on 66 for the third wicket in an hour and three-quarters. When play was stopped by rain the score was 106 for four wickets, the match being drawn . . .

24 July: SURREY v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4008.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 July, page 11)

The great improvement in Sussex county cricket this season no doubt had much to do with the large company at the Oval yesterday, when the return match between Surrey and Sussex opened under favourable conditions. Beyond being a little slow the wicket played true and, going in first, Sussex fared so well that, after remaining in nearly the whole of cricketing hours, they secured the fine total of 268.

So successful were the earlier batsmen that even a larger score seemed quite probable, for 140 appeared on the board with only two men out. Bean and Marlow put on 39 for the first wicket in three-quarters of an hour, but the longest stand of the innings was that for the third, made by Mr Murdoch and Marlow, who added 70 in as many minutes, while subsequently most of the other batsmen gave a helping hand in the accumulation of the 268. Marlow, who was in three hours for his 80, was the fifth to leave, caught at wicket for 157; he played excellent cricket, making no palpable mistake, and hitting ten fours, seven threes and five twos.

Mr Wilson's 42 was one of the best innings of the day and included a cut for five; he went in fourth wicket down at 156 and was ninth out, caught at slip at 234, 78 having been obtained during his stay of an hour and a quarter. In the last 20 minutes Lowe and Tate put on 34 for the tenth wicket. Brockwell bowled admirably and his six wickets averaged only ten runs each, a very good analysis considering the length of the innings.

Surrey did pretty well in the 50 minutes they were in, and at the drawing of stumps at 7 o'clock they were 61 for two wickets. It will be noted that Richardson gives way to Sharpe in the Surrey team, the former not being thoroughly himself, while Lowe, the left-handed bowler, receives another trial for Sussex.

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

Yesterday was a great day for batsmen on the Oval, and the outcome of the heavy scoring was to place Sussex in a very favourable position. It is a long time since such a good wicket has been secured on the Surrey ground, and all ill-effects of Sunday night's rain had gone, so that throughout yesterday the ball came along easily.

Surrey, who had lost two batsmen overnight for 61 runs, renewed their innings at 11.35, and when the fifth wicket fell the score was 166. Mr Key, though narrowly escaping a catch at slip, and Brockwell threw plenty of vigour into the game. Their partnership, which was interrupted for a few minutes by a sharp shower, extended over an hour and ten minutes and yielded 121. Surrey made their runs at the rate of 80 an hour, so that it can be imagined that their batting was always bright.

Sussex had two hours and 50 minutes' play in their second innings, and the first hour and 20 minutes of this furnished very brilliant batting by Bean and Marlow, who made 133 runs for the first wicket. Bean was then bowled; he had hit eight fours, a three and two twos. It should be mentioned that in the first over of the innings he was missed at short slip by Abel. At 225 Marlow was caught at slip for 126. It was a beautiful innings, played in two hours and a half and, excepting

a difficult chance at the wicket at 92, free from fault. Marlow had displayed great skill in driving and cutting, and this performance is certainly the best he has achieved in county matches. His contributions in the second innings were 14 fours, five threes and 14 twos.

The remarkable day's cricket yielded 505 runs at the cost of 11 wickets. Sussex, with seven batsmen to come in, are 184 ahead. There were about 5,000 spectators.

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

The spell of ill-fortune which has pursued Surrey's recent cricket remains unbroken, and yesterday at the Oval the side, going in on a wicket spoiled by rain, showed such incapacity at playing lob bowling that Sussex triumphed substantially. Walter Humphreys, the Sussex professional, has had a big share in the success of his team this season, but his dexterity as a lob bowler was never better demonstrated than yesterday afternoon. His full record credited him with seven wickets at an average cost of seven runs each.

The state of affairs on Tuesday night held out fair promise of a good third day. Sussex had the best of positions with 184 runs on and seven batsmen in hand. Yesterday the innings closed for 297. Seven wickets had fallen in an hour and a half for 56.

Surrey had now to get 241 to win. In the 30 minutes before luncheon Mr Wells and Abel scored 35, and subsequently the record reached 43. Now began Surrey's misfortunes, which clung to them with so much persistency that in 50 minutes nine of the side went for the addition of 39 runs as follows: - Abel returned the ball; Maurice Read caught at deep mid-off (first ball); Mr Wells caught at extra slip; Baldwin bowled; Mr Key caught at extra cover; Mr W W Read stumped; Lockwood caught at long-on; Mr Shuter caught at deep mid-off; and Wood caught at short-leg.

At this stage rain stopped the game for a quarter of an hour, but on resuming Sharpe and Brockwell added 29. Sharpe was then caught at wicket, and the innings, which had occupied rather less than two hours, ended for 111. Sussex thus won by 129 runs, this being their first victory over Surrey since 1886. There was great enthusiasm at the finish, and Humphreys had a very large share of the applause.

24 July: YORKSHIRE v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128136.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 25 July, page 11)

Some remarkable cricket was witnessed on the Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, yesterday, when Essex got much the best of the play. Essex had first innings on the bad wicket, and so well did Peel and Wainwright bowl that seven of the side were dismissed for 35. The last three wickets, however, added 105 runs, Mr Kortright and Mead hitting freely; indeed, the latter took out his bat for 66, the result of an hour's play. In the end the Essex total reached 140.

Yorkshire found the bowling of Mr Kortright and Read almost unplayable, and within an hour the team was put out for 44. Mr Kortright was credited with five wickets for 24 runs and Mead four for eight.

The home side, following on, again did badly, and Wainwright and Moorhouse alone met with any notable success. Yorkshire at the drawing of stumps had one wicket to fall and were only 30 runs on. There were some 4,000 spectators.

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

At Sheffield, yesterday, the substantial victory of Essex was in every way expected after the nature of Monday's cricket. Yorkshire, who had followed on with arrears of 96, completed their second innings for 127, so that Essex wanted only 32 to win. This number cost three batsmen, and Essex won by seven wickets. Mead had a very big share in the success of the visitors, for, in addition to scoring 66, not out, he obtained ten wickets in the match for 81 runs.

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

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128384.html)

Day 1 (no report of scorecard from Tuesday 25 July, page 11)

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

This match was decided on the Warwickshire county ground at Edgbaston on Monday and yesterday. Diver played in fine style for 99, which took him two hours to obtain, the chief hits being 16 fours, three threes and eight twos. Mr Hill and Quaife also batted well for the home county, who eventually beat Hampshire by an innings and 19 runs.

27 July: KENT v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4009.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 28 July, page 3)

A thoroughly good day's cricket was watched with keen interest by the large company which assembled yesterday in the beautiful grounds of the Cricket Club at Beckenham. It was the first of the two matches annually played between these neighbouring shires, and the fact that each county had recently beaten Surrey lent fresh attraction to the fixture. Kent had included in their ranks Mr J R Mason, the captain of the Winchester eleven.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 29 July, page 11)

The easy way in which Kent beat Sussex at Beckenham yesterday afternoon was not very surprising after the nature of Thursday's cricket. Sussex, with a deficit of 138, had to follow on, and the badness of the wicket combined with the well-known skill of the Kent bowlers sufficed to rob the second day of the match of considerable interest.

Sussex did their best in the uphill fight and managed to avoid an innings loss, no mean feat under the existing conditions. Their second venture began at 11.40 and extended over two hours and a half. Marlow and Mr Brann again carried off chief batting honours for the visitors; the professional went in first and was fourth to leave, having made 44 out of 70 in 50 minutes; his chief hits were seven fours, two threes and three twos. Mr Brann was ninth out for a capital 30 after a stay of an hour and a quarter. His steady game had much to do with the saving of the innings defeat.

Kent in the end wanted only 21 to win, and these were obtained for the loss of one wicket. Thus Kent won by nine wickets.

27 July: SURREY v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4010.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 28 July, page 3)

At Kennington Oval yesterday the Colonials began the 24th match of their tour. Of the previous 23 they have won 13, lost six and drawn four. The present contest with Surrey was a return to that played at the end of May, when the county gained an easy victory. Messrs W Giffen, Coningham and A H Jarvis stood out of the visitors' team, while Henderson was included in the home eleven, in the absence of Mr J Shuter. The weather held fine throughout and many thousand spectators were present.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 29 July, page 11)

There was a fairly good attendance at the Oval yesterday morning, when play in this match was resumed. Baldwin (31) and Brockwell (49) continued their batting for Surrey to the attacks of Messrs Trott and Turner. After a maiden to the former, Brockwell opened with a late cut for four, which he quickly supplemented with two other hits of equal value. Mr Giffen came on at 244 for Mr Turner, and very soon he clean bowled Brockwell, who had been batting an hour and a half for two fives, seven fours, two threes, six twos and singles. Six for 251. No fewer than 123 runs had been put on for the wicket.

Henderson arrived, and Baldwin finished his 59, but Mr Trumble, who relieved Mr Trott, bowled him at 277. His chief figures were six fours, three threes and five twos. Sharpe came, and Henderson was heartily cheered for scoring 12 in an over of Mr Giffen's by three drives. These took the Surrey total past the 300. Mr Trott now went on for Mr Trumble, who crossed to the pavilion end. Sharpe was caught at slip, but Henderson, having been joined by Marshall, continued to hit with great freedom. Mr Bruce went on for Mr Trumble, who crossed over. The latter change brought about the downfall of Marshall, secured low down at wicket, and of Richardson, caught at cover-point, while Henderson carried out his bat for a well-played 60, in which were ten fours, three threes and three twos. Total, 356. Duration of innings, nearly five hours.

The Australians, with a heavy deficit of 194, had a quarter of an hour's batting before luncheon, during which time Messrs Bannerman and Bruce scored 17 against Richardson and Brockwell. Afterwards these batsmen played with great confidence, Mr Bruce making 13 in an over from Brockwell, in which were two remarkably fine cuts to the boundary. Fifty runs were recorded in 35 minutes, Hayward having just before this point relieved Richardson, while Sharpe now went on for Brockwell. These changes checked the run-getting a little, until at 62 Mr Bruce played on. Mr Trott made a capital cut to the boundary and Mr Bannerman obtained eight by two leg-hits in an over of Hayward's. For the latter Richardson came on at 81, and Mr Bannerman, among other hits, sent him to leg and cut the ball for four, but at 98 he was smartly caught by slip, while Mr Trott was out in the same manner without addition to the total. Three down.

Mr Graham arrived, and with an on-drive for a couple caused the 100 to be reached after an hour and a half's play. Three boundary hits were made by Mr Graham and one by Mr Gregory. Sharp runs were gained in several overs, but in attempting one of these the latter was thrown out from third man by Maurice Read. Mr Lyons joined Mr Graham, who obtained a dozen runs in three hits. The former then made a fine drive along the ground to the enclosure rails, but Sharpe beat him with

the next ball. Half the Australian wickets were now lost and 42 runs yet required by them to save a single innings defeat,

Mr Giffen arrived and, with Mr Graham, infused a little life into the game, until at 175 the latter was bowled. Six down. Mr Trumble assisted Mr Giffen. The light was now very uncertain and at ten minutes past 5, when the total had reached 185, it had become so bad as to stop play for 55 minutes, during which there were several showers of rain.

On resuming, Brockwell and Sharpe still had charge of the bowling. Mr Giffen cut the former for four, and shortly afterwards a single by Mr Trumble caused the 194 arrears to be rubbed off. The 200 was reached at 20 minutes past 6 and, although the bowling was changed at both ends, the Australians, at the drawing of stumps, were 24 runs on for six wickets. There were about 5,000 spectators on the ground during the afternoon.

Day 3 (report from Monday 31 July, page 11)

The play of the Australians in this match at the Oval on Saturday was quite in keeping with their traditional courage and skill in an uphill fight. Surrey only secured the game by the small majority of two wickets. This was a result widely different from what was with every reason expected after the way the contest had gone on the first two days.

Indeed, at one time there seemed little probability of its reaching the third day, for, our visitors going in a second time against the almost overwhelming odds of 194, lost five wickets before the arrears were rubbed off, while Saturday morning found them with six men out and only 24 on. Certainly the weather played an important part in the closing stage of the game and, with the wicket quickly made false, there were plenty who thought Surrey incapable of the task under the circumstances and with such a bowler as Mr Turner among their opponents.

In the morning Messrs Giffen and Trumble, who had become partners at 175 (the time when the sixth wicket fell), added 24 more runs in as many minutes, and then Mr Trumble fell to a catch at slip; the stand had lasted altogether an hour and had yielded 67 runs. Mr M'Leod helped Mr Giffen to add 29 for the eighth wicket; but when Abel went on he was quickly stumped. As soon as Mr Turner came in rain began to fall heavily and stopped the game for an hour.

After luncheon the innings was quickly over: Mr Giffen was bowled at 306 by a very good ball from Brockwell and a catch at long-slip disposed of Mr Turner, the total being 308. Mr Giffen was in rather more than two and a half hours, and his innings included seven fours, three threes and 14 twos. Mr Blackham, in spite of his injured hand, decided to go in, while he subsequently kept wicket.

Surrey entered upon their task of making 115 to win at a quarter-past 3. The start was disastrous, for Mr Turner in his first four overs got Abel caught at slip, Street finely taken by Mr Giffen (who secured the ball with his right hand running from third man) and Maurice Read caught at slip. Only nine runs were scored when the last-named left. At this point Mr W W Read joined Hayward, and by fine cricket the score was advanced to 46, when the professional was leg-before to Mr Turner. With Mr W W Read cleverly caught low down at slip, at 53, the game turned in favour of the Australians; all five wickets had fallen to Mr Turner, who was bowling splendidly on the bad pitch.

However, Brockwell and Baldwin, following the example set them by Mr Read and Hayward,

found vigour the most profitable thing to instil into the batting, and these tactics were so well managed by them that 36 runs were put on in less than half an hour. Brockwell risked a run out, with the result that a two of his was increased to five by an overthrow. Baldwin, who played with freedom, was caught at short mid-on after he had been missed by Mr Bruce at short-leg from the previous ball. Seven for 96.

With three wickets to fall 19 runs were wanted by Surrey when Sharpe joined Henderson. The latter cut Mr Turner for three, and then the last-named appealed for a return catch against Sharpe. But the declaration was favourable to the batsman. Every ball was keenly watched. Each man made four by a drive, which placed the side within eight of victory. Sharpe secured four by a snick which almost cost him his wicket; but, with the score a tie, he ran himself out. Marshall, who had been injured in the face while keeping wicket, arrived, and Henderson with a cut for four won the match for Surrey by two wickets. There was warm enthusiasm at the finish.

27 July: YORKSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4011.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 28 July, page 3)

Yorkshire's leading position among the counties invests their matches with more than the average amount of interest, and some 5,000 spectators witnessed yesterday's cricket at Huddersfield. Unfortunately, the rain had ruined the wicket and throughout the bowlers had a strong advantage.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 29 July, page 11)

With the wicket still affording the bowlers every assistance this match proved unfavourable to batsmen to the end. Thursday night's position at Huddersfield left Gloucestershire, who had followed on, still 74 runs behind and eight wickets to fall.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Rice fared so well that at first there seemed some prospect of a good score, but when once they were separated Yorkshire's course to victory was pretty easy. Dr Grace played excellently for his 31 and Mr Rice showed considerable care, but the others did little. Indeed, after Dr Grace was third out, county at 57, the other wickets added only 34 runs. Mr Rice took two hours and a quarter to get 27. Yorkshire wanted only four runs to win and they won the match by ten wickets.

27 July: DERBYSHIRE v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128378.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 28 July, page 3)

Play in this match began yesterday at Derby, when Hampshire were in all day for 269 (Barton 107 and Captain Wynyard 95).

Day 2 (report from Saturday 29 July, page 11)

When this match was continued at Derby yesterday, Derbyshire, going in against their rivals' score of 269, made 245 (Bagshaw 75). Hampshire in the second innings scored 92 for four wickets.

Day 3 (report from Monday 31 July, page 11)

The concluding day of this match at Derby was characterized by a fine batting performance by the home county, who, going in to make 173 to win, got them at the cost of only two batsmen. Thus Derbyshire won by eight wickets.

Saturday 29 July: THE AUSTRALIANS v ESSEX

This match will be played in lieu of the Australians v Cambridge University (Past and Present) at Leyton on Thursday next, the 3rd prox. Considering the fine form Essex seem to be in at present it should prove a highly interesting fixture. The county team will be the same as that which defeated Yorkshire this week, with the exception that Mr A P Lucas takes the place of Mr R C Gosling.

Saturday 29 July: THE COUNTIES

Two more matches were finished yesterday, with the result that Yorkshire have strengthened their position at the head of the shires, and Kent have taken second place. Results: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	11	8	2	1	6
Kent	10	5	2	3	3
Middlesex	10	6	4	0	2
Lancashire	10	5	3	2	2
Nottinghamshire	10	3	4	3	-1
Surrey	11	5	6	0	-1
Sussex	11	4	5	2	-1
Gloucestershire	9	2	6	1	-4
Somerset	10	1	7	2	-6

In this table drawn matches are not reckoned, while the losses are deducted from the wins.

31 July: KENT v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4012.html)

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

A large company assembled yesterday on the Rectory Field, Blackheath, to see the meeting of Yorkshire and Kent – the possessors of the second position. Unfortunately the weather was for the most part dull and, after luncheon, a delay occurred through a heavy shower.

Kent's innings extended over two hours and ten minutes and produced 77. A Hearne and Mr Mason by good, careful cricket each ran into double figures; but it was when Ernest Smith and Wainwright took up the bowling, at 23, that Kent's disasters began and following each other with startling rapidity. After an hour and a quarter's play the fifth wicket fell for 41; but things were improved slightly through some good hits by Mr Marchant and George Hearne, and at luncheon the record was eight for 72. Immediately after the interval heavy rain stopped the game for half an hour, and then the Kent innings quickly closed, a piece of bad judgment in running costing Walter Hearne, the last man, his wicket. Wainwright had bowled with great effect.

Yorkshire had two hours and ten minutes' bating, and in this time, at the cost of five wickets, they headed their rivals' score by 35 runs. For this advantageous position they were indebted to the fine cricket of Brown and Tunncliffe. These players became partners when the three amateurs had been got out for 19 runs – Mr Jackson was dismissed by a wonderful left-handed catch at mid-on by Martin, Mr Smith played on and Lord Hawke was caught by the wicket-keeper running to short-leg. It was now that Brown and Tunncliffe got together and by their good free play altered the aspect of the game. Brown scored the quicker, and in the hour of the stand contributed the majority of the 67 added. Tunncliffe, who had been let off in the long-field by Mr Patterson, was caught at long-on soon after his escape for 29. Brown continued to do well, and at the drawing of stumps had increased his figures to 56. Peel was caught at square-leg from the last ball of the day.

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

Yorkshire, who had gained a substantial advantage on Monday, played a winning game with great ease yesterday at Blackheath, and late in the afternoon secured an innings victory. The home side never recovered from the feeble start in the match, while in the hour following luncheon yesterday they fared even worse, in spite of the vigorous play of George Hearne aided by the steadiness of Walter Hearne and Wright. Indeed, the first-mentioned player's 65, not out, gave something akin to brilliance to the finish of Kent's second spell of defence.

In the morning Yorkshire, who had lost five wickets for 112, occupied two hours in the completion of their venture, adding in this time 108 runs. The merit of this fine total of 220 belonged very largely to the sound and excellent batting of Brown, Wainwright and Tunncliffe. Brown went in third wicket down at 19 and was sixth out at 157, when he slipped in playing forward to A Hearne and was stumped. He took rather more than two hours to make his 81, in which were eight fours, seven threes and ten twos. Wainwright was in an hour and 50 minutes scoring his 51, hitting six fours, three threes and four twos. Yorkshire's innings lasted four hours and a quarter.

Kent went in again at ten minutes to 3 and for rather more than an hour Wainwright and Hirst seemed unplayable. They bowled splendidly, and so rapidly were the home side put out that just

before 4 o'clock the eighth wicket went at 40. George Hearne and Wright now made their plucky effort to lessen the severity of the almost inevitable defeat, and so much success attended them that in an hour 50 were added, while afterwards Walter Hearne helped to add 42. Thus were 92 made for the last two wickets in an hour and a half.

The spectators, of whom there were about 3,000, grew very enthusiastic during this batting, and George Hearne at the finish was very warmly received. He had not been dismissed in either innings, and his chief hits were eight fours, four threes and six twos. Yorkshire thus secured the victory by an innings and 11 runs.

31 July: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4013.html)

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

At Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, the characteristic of the day's cricket was the free hitting of Mr J A Dixon, who, for the second time this season, reached three figures. The home county won the toss and sent in Shrewsbury and Mr Dixon to the attack of Mr Ferris and Roberts.

From a loose hit Shrewsbury was caught in the slips at 16, but on Gunn joining Mr Dixon runs came at a pretty good pace in spite of bowling changes. No fewer than 101 were put on before the former was caught at wicket; among his hits were five fours, four threes and three twos. Mr W H Brain, who kept wicket for Oxford this year, filled this place for his county on the present occasion in an admirable manner. In addition to the dismissal of Gunn he got rid of three others. Among these was Mr Dixon, who was fourth out; he had been batting Hornby two hours and a quarter and in his 103 were seven fours, ten threes and 11 twos. Rain interfered at times with the play and caused stumps to be drawn 40 minutes earlier than usual.

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

The rain of Monday evening converted the wicket at Trent-bridge, Nottingham, yesterday, into one of great aid for bowlers, and Gloucestershire fell easy victims to the skill of Attewell and Shacklock. Notts, who had lost eight men for 269, speedily finished their venture for an addition of only four runs.

In neither of the Gloucestershire innings was there any particularly prominent feature. Indeed, the side was twice got out for an aggregate of 143, which gave an average of only seven runs each for the 20 wickets. Dr W G Grace, Captain Luard and Mr Kitcat batted pretty well under the unfavourable conditions. Attewell and Shacklock had fine bowling analyses, and it should be mentioned that they were supported by capital fielding; Mr Jones especially distinguished himself at short slip and Sherwin kept wicket excellently. Nottinghamshire won by an innings and 130 runs.

31 July: OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE PAST AND PRESENT V AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4014.html)

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

The opening day's play in this match, at Portsmouth, yesterday, progressed under most favourable conditions, the weather being very fine and the wicket in excellent order. There were about 4,000 spectators.

Although there were eight "blues" in the home side it could in no way be called thoroughly representative of past and present University cricket skill, for among those absent were Messrs F S Jackson, W H Patterson, F Marchant, Ernest Smith, S M J Woods, H T Hewett, F G J Ford, K J Key, L C H Palairt, C M Wells, F E Lacey, A J L Hill, G M'Gregor, T C O'Brien, A G Steel and many others.

Yesterday's cricket extended over four and a quarter hours, and this time the Australians found insufficient to complete the first innings. Indeed they scored heavily and had lost only four wickets at the end of the day. Mr Bannerman played a fine innings of 102, showing more freedom than usual and getting a lot of his runs on the leg side. Mr Lyons made 51 out of 72 in three-quarters of an hour, hitting nine fours, and Mr Trott obtained 11 fours in running up 61 in an hour. In the last 75 minutes of the day Messrs Graham and Bannerman put on 110. The fielding grew a little loose, compared with its excellence in the morning, and various catches were missed. The cricketers were entertained at luncheon at Government House by the Duke of Connaught.

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

Our colonial visitors have a faculty for furnishing us with surprises, and the most recent of these was experienced yesterday at Portsmouth. There, on the United Services Ground, they amassed 805 runs for eight wickets. This number is the highest score in a first-class match on record. The previous best in England was 703 made by Cambridge University for nine wickets against Sussex at Brighton in 1890.

The Australian record is 803 for a complete innings obtained by the Non-Smokers in a match with the Smokers, at Melbourne, in 1887, a year in which a team of English cricketers were on a visit there, and took part in the match. At Sydney also, in 1882, New South Wales ran up 775 against Victoria (Mr W L Murdoch 321). These figures have been surpassed in a match of less importance by the Orleans Club, who scored 920 against Rickling Green in August, 1881. The previous highest total by an Australian team in England was the 643 secured by them against Sussex at Brighton in May, 1882.

When play ceased on Monday, the Australians had scored 346 for four wickets, and yesterday only four batsmen were dismissed for 459 runs. Messrs Bannerman and Graham (the not-outs with 102 and 61) continued their batting at 12 o'clock. Messrs Forster and Arkwright were intrusted with the bowling. When the score stood at 372, Mr Graham was caught in the long-field; he had been batting an hour and three-quarters. Among his hits were 11 fours, a three and eight twos. He gave three chances. The fifth wicket had put on 136. Mr Bruce came and batted with Mr Bannerman while 97 more runs were obtained in an hour and a quarter. Then the latter, who had been in six hours for 133, was caught at short-leg; his principal figures were 13 fours, eight threes and 14 twos.

Messrs Bruce and Trumble successfully defied all the varied attempts to separate them for two hours and a quarter, during which time they scored at a very rapid rate and added 232, taking the total from 469 to 701. At this stage they were both dismissed, Mr Bruce stumped and Mr Trumble bowled. The former, who had been let off when he had made 111 and 185, was in altogether three hours and 40 minutes, and his chief contributions were 23 fours, eight threes and 21 twos. Mr Trumble's 105 were obtained without a fault, this being his first hundred in England, and it was made up of 12 fours, seven threes, eight twos and singles.

Then, in the last hour of the day, Messrs Turner and W Giffen added 104 and still had their wickets intact. Ten bowlers had been tried. The weather was pleasant and there were about 5,000 spectators.

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

There was a large number of visitors to the United Services ground at Portsmouth yesterday to see the close of this match. The heavy scoring of the Australians on the first two days invested the game with more than ordinary interest. At the drawing of stumps on Tuesday they had obtained 805 for the loss of eight batsmen.

The two outstanding wickets were secured for an addition of 38 runs, Mr Turner being caught by mid-off and Mr W Giffen bowled. Total 843, which eclipses by 40 runs anything yet accomplished either in England or Australia. The Colonials scored to a man; only one failed to reach double figures and he was not out, while three of the batsmen got beyond the century. All the Englishmen were put on to bowl with the exception of Mr Gay, the wicket-keeper. Duration of innings, ten hours. Five of the batsmen, Messrs Bruce, Bannerman, Trumble, Turner and W Giffen, had their highest scores during the tour.

Only four hours were left for play, and most of the interest in the match naturally was gone, for, as the wicket was still good, there was small chance of the Englishmen being got out twice. Their first innings extended over three hours and 191 runs were scored, Messrs Forster, Wilson and Ranjitsinhji batting well. The bowling of Messrs Turner and G Giffen was very effective. The Universities followed on, and at the close of the day the match was left drawn thus . . .

31 July: SURREY v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4015.html)

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

Surrey had something like their regular team at the Oval yesterday for the return match with Lancashire, whom they had beaten early in the season at Old Trafford. Hayward, a nephew of the once celebrated Tom Hayward, was again included in the side, and Street, who came off against the Australians, was given another trial; while Mr Shuter, Mr Key, Lockwood and Wood, none of whom had shared in the colonial game, resumed their places. From Lancashire Mr A C M'Laren was away – a considerable loss, as he is one of the best amateur cricketers of the season.

The day's play was bright and interesting, and Lancashire at the close had distinctly an advantage. Briggs's fine three-figure innings furnished the most prominent feature; but at the very beginning of Lancashire's venture the batting of Mr Hornby and A Ward produced runs at a great pace, as will be gathered from the fact that 60 were made from the first 14 overs. However, after these batsmen had been separated two other wickets fell quickly, but Briggs threw plenty of vigour into the game and runs came at a great pace. Albert Ward stayed with him while 32 were added, Mr Crosfield helped to put on 56 for the fifth wicket, and then came the great stand of the day, Briggs and Tinsley obtaining 90 for the sixth partnership. The former was in only an hour and 50 minutes for his 112; it was a brilliant display, in which cutting was a prominent feature, and among his hits were 21 fours, a three and three twos. Beyond a chance in the slips when 67, Briggs made no mistake.

Lancashire were all out by half-past 4, the total being 265. Richardson, when he went on again at 233, took four wickets in nine overs for 14 runs. At times the home fielding was scarcely up to its usual standard. Surrey had about a couple of hours' batting and lost three wickets for 86. Abel played well and scored his 42 without a chance, hitting four fours, three threes and two twos. Today Surrey want 100 runs to save the follow-on.

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

At Kennington Oval yesterday Surrey required 100 to prevent the follow-on and had seven wickets in hand. Street and Mr W W Read faced the attacks of Oakley and Briggs at 11.35. The third ball sent him Street played into slip's hands.

Baldwin came, and the 100 was reached at a quarter to 12. Then Mold relieved Oakley and with his third ball clean bowled Mr Read. Half the wickets were now lost, and the remaining portion went for an average of nine runs each. Brockwell was bowled, off stump; Baldwin obstructed his wicket; Lockwood was easily stumped; Mr Shuter was run out; and Richardson bowled. Total, 146; duration of innings, two hours and a half.

Surrey, with a deficit of 119, followed on at five minutes past 1 with Mr Shuter and Abel. The bowling was again opened by Briggs and Mold. A disastrous start was made, as three wickets went for nine runs – Mr Shuter bowled, Abel easily caught at deep cover-point and Hayward thrown out from short-leg. Mr W W Read and Baldwin were now together. The former hit with exceptional vigour. He made four fours (three cuts and an on-drive), to which he added a square-leg hit to the boundary. The score had reached 47 at the interval, after which Mr Read continued to hit freely, and he reached his 50 by an on-drive from Briggs. Baldwin was batting an hour and a quarter for

13, when he was out l-b-w. Mr Key came, and the 100 was signalled at 20 minutes to 2. Mr Read was then caught at slip for 61, in which were ten fours, two threes and two twos.

Brockwell joined Mr Key, and at 4 o'clock the arrears were made up. Six runs later the professional was clean bowled, while Mr Key, who had been batting very freely, was dismissed in the same manner, and at 152 Street was stumped. Eight down. Lockwood, who had made a dozen in an over from Mold, now had Wood for a partner. These batsmen put on 32 before the latter was bowled, and Richardson arrived. The 200 was reached at 5 o'clock, but a couple of runs later the last-comer was clean bowled, Lockwood carrying out his bat for 51, obtained in three-quarters of an hour.

The visitors sent in Mr Hornby and A Ward to start getting the 84 necessary to win. Richardson and Lockwood bowled. Seven runs only came in a quarter of an hour, but then the Lancashire captain made three fours in an over from Lockwood, who at 23 gave way to Hayward. Four runs later Mr Hornby skied a ball to the off and it was well judged and caught by Lockwood. Sugg aided Ward, and both batsmen hit so freely that 50 was reached in less than 40 minutes. The remaining runs, despite bowling changes, were obtained within ten minutes of the time for drawing stumps, the winning hit being made by Sugg. From the full score it will be seen that Surrey lost by nine wickets.

31 July: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v LINCOLNSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128828.html)

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

Further free hitting was seen at Lord's yesterday, when this two-day match began. Marylebone went in first and lost J T Hearne for nine, but Mr O'Brien and Davenport put together 85 runs for the second wicket, and the innings realized 266. Lincolnshire opened their batting in a most spirited manner . . .

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

At Lord's yesterday play in this match was resumed. On the previous day Marylebone had finished an innings for 266 and three of the county wickets were down for 106. Geeson (not out 40) more than doubled his score, and the venture closed 49 runs behind their opponents' total.

The home eleven did not do so well in their second venture, and Lincolnshire were set 223 to win. More than half this number were obtained at the cost of two wickets only. Time did not admit of the match being brought to a definite issue, and it was thus left drawn . . .

31 July: LEICESTERSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/124/124185.html)

No reports or scorecards found for the first two days.

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

The scoring in this match, which began on Monday at Leicester, was pretty even at the outset, as the visitors only had a majority of 13 on the first innings. In their second venture, however, they ran up 244. Leicestershire showed a marked falling off in their batting when they went in again, and ultimately lost the match by 173 runs.

Six counties brought their matches to a conclusion yesterday, with the result that Yorkshire and Lancashire have strengthened their positions by victories over Kent and Surrey respectively; Kent has dropped from second to fourth place. Results: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	12	9	2	1	7
Lancashire	11	6	3	2	3
Middlesex	10	6	4	0	2
Kent	11	5	3	3	2
Nottinghamshire	11	4	4	3	0
Sussex	11	4	5	2	-1
Surrey	12	5	7	0	-2
Gloucestershire	10	2	7	1	-5
Somerset	10	1	7	2	-8

3 August: LANCASHIRE v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4016.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 4 August, page 8)

In consequence of the bad weather a start could not be made with this match at Manchester yesterday.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 5 August, page 7)

A start was made with this match yesterday, at Old Trafford, Manchester. There were several showers, which rather curtailed the play, although the cricket extended over nearly four hours.

The great feature of the day was the batting of Frank Sugg, who made his third three figure score in important matches this season. He took only two hours and three-quarters to secured his 127, a remarkably brilliant display, in which driving was the characteristic. His chief hits were a five, 20 fours, four threes and four twos. His most able partner was Mr Crosfield, who helped him to add 98 for the fifth wicket in a little over an hour. Mr Hornby, A Ward and Briggs also scored freely and at the close of the day the record was 269 for six wickets.

Day 3 (report from Monday 7 August, page 4)

Lancashire made the most of their advantage of first innings in this match at Old Trafford, Manchester, and followed up their successful batting of Friday by fine bowling and fielding, with the result that on Saturday they secured a very decisive victory. Gloucestershire experienced much ill fortune in having to face the skilled Lancashire bowlers with the wicket soft and treacherous.

There are not many sides that would have forced the game so well as Lancashire did while the turf was easy, and then get their rivals out twice in one afternoon. When the game was resumed on Saturday morning the home team, with only six wickets down, had scored 269. In half an hour they added 39 runs at the cost of two batsmen, and then Mr Hornby declared the innings closed.

Dr W G Grace and Mr Ferris started pretty well for the visitors, making 40 for the first wicket; but at luncheon time four were down for 72. After the interval, the game furnished little else than a series of bowling triumphs for Briggs, Mold and Oakley. In three-quarters of an hour the last six wickets fell for 33 runs, Briggs taking five of them for 21.

Gloucestershire, who were 203 behind, followed on. Their second innings extended from a quarter to four until 5.35 and produced 77 runs. Briggs's record for the match was 13 wickets for 70. The weather proved bright and the 5,000 people present loudly cheered Lancashire for their victory by an innings and 126 runs.

3 August: SURREY v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarhive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4017.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 4 August, page 8)

As far as the return game between these counties has progressed, it would seem that Surrey's spell of ill fortune in county matches had not broken, for yesterday at the Oval in the beginning of this contest they had all the worst of the cricket. The visitors kept possession of the wicket the greater part of the day, playing a first innings of 276 in four and a half hours.

Their start in no way presaged this very good total, for when Alec Hearne and Wright became partners four men were out for 53 runs. But it was this stand for the fifth wicket that so changed affairs. In two hours and 10 minutes A Hearne and Wright advanced the score from 53 to 173. Hearne took three and a quarter hours to make his 74, a steady and well-played innings of ten fours, a three and six twos. Wright was seventh out at 235 for 69, made out of 182 in three hours and 20 minutes; his chief contributions were nine fours, two threes and seven twos.

Mr Le Fleming's free and brilliant play furnished a marked contrast to the steadiness which had preceded it. He went in sixth wicket down at 177 and was ninth out at 265, having obtained 59 of the 88 added in 75 minutes (ten fours, three threes, two twos and six singles). At the close of the day the score stood as follows . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 5 August, page 7)

Brilliant bating by Mr Walter Read and some finished play by Hayward were seen during the two and a quarter hours which preceded the luncheon interval and the storm, at Kennington Oval, yesterday. This fine cricket rescued Surrey from the bad position in which they had been left overnight by the fall of two of their best wickets for nine runs following the completion of the long Kent score.

Mr Read, who joined Hayward yesterday morning at 11.35, quickly settled down and played the fine forcing game which makes his batting so attracted to watch. He was quite at his best in his on-drives. The bowling was soon varied, Wright and Martin giving way to A Hearne and Mr Mason; but the scoring, which had grown comparatively slow for a few overs, soon recovered its pace, and Mr W W Read, after giving a sharp chance to third man (Mr Perkins), reached his 50 in an hour and a quarter. Hayward now went in for a spell of free hitting, making some splendid drives, and the 100 went up at 1.10.

George Hearne and Wright took up the bowling, but Hayward completed his 50 in two and a quarter hours with the figures at 143. A few minutes afterwards the partnership, which had lasted two hours and a quarter and had yielded 137 runs, ended, Mr Read being out leg before. His brilliant 84 included 11 fours, a three and 12 twos; the chance mentioned above and a narrow escape from Mr Marchant at mid-off at 18 were the only mistakes in the innings. Rain came on just before 2 o'clock, when the light was bad, and no further cricket took place.

Day 3 (report from Monday 7 August, page 4)

Surrey infused something of their old brilliancy into this match at the Oval on Saturday. Not only did they head their rivals' long score, but when the game was left drawn, they were in a good winning position. The merit of their cricket successes belonged in the first place to Mr Walter Read and Hayward; and, secondly, to the free play of Brockwell and the captain, Mr Shuter.

On Friday when the rain stopped the progress of the game Surrey had made 154 at the cost of only three wickets. Hayward, who was not out 53, continued to play fine cricket, and was seventh to leave, caught in the deep field for 112. He had gone in first on Thursday evening and had quickly escaped at short slip; but during the game on Friday and Saturday his batting was sound and finished, while at times he hit hard. His innings of 112 had occupied rather less than five hours, and included 17 fours, a three and eight twos. This success of Hayward will be very gratifying to the Surrey authorities, who, believing him to be possessed of great abilities (which were plainly shown in much of his cricket in the county's minor matches and also in the Australian contest), had given him plenty of opportunities in the early part of the season with mostly disappointing results. Both in style and effect Hayward promises to make a name worthy of association with that of his uncle – the famous Tom Hayward of other days.

More good points in Surrey's innings on Saturday were the partnerships of Brockwell and Hayward and Mr Shuter and Hayward, and these yielded 51 in 45 minutes and 57 in 55 minutes respectively. Mr Shuter carried his bat for 41, in which were four fours, a three and six twos. During the morning Surrey's last seven wickets had produced 134 runs in two hours and a quarter. Martin had bowled very well.

After luncheon Kent lost two wickets for 44 and then a storm broke over the ground. Further play seemed out of the question, but when the weather cleared up the crowd clamoured for more cricket. Although the umpires were against playing again because of the bad state of the ground, Kent eventually renewed their innings, and in the hour preceding the drawing of stumps lost six other wickets for 34 more runs. The ground was very heavy and unfit for the game after the rain storm. Kent at the close were only 66 runs ahead with eight men out.

3 August: ESSEX v AUSTRALIANS (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4018.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 4 August, page 8)

The first match ever played between a colonial team and Essex County Club opened yesterday at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton. After the great improvement shown in Essex cricket this season and their recent feat of beating Yorkshire, at Sheffield, it was a really happy substitution for the original Australian fixture at Leyton, and one far more likely to give a fillip to the game in the county than if only a weak Cambridge Past and Present team had been organized.

The conditions for the match were fairly favourable; the wicket was fast and true, and the only thing disagreeable was the boisterous wind. Essex managed to get together their very best eleven under the captaincy of Mr A P Lucas; but the Australians were without Messrs George Giffen, Blackham and M'Leod, the team being completed by Messrs Walter Giffen, Coningham and Jarvis. It proved a capital day's cricket, in which the fine bowling of Mead was a marked feature, and the four or five thousand spectators were very enthusiastic.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 5 August, page 7)

At the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, yesterday, the bad weather greatly interfered with the match, yet in the two hours' cricket there was considerable excellence, and the Essex batsmen were warmly cheered for their efforts – eventually successful – to avert the follow-on.

As the adjournment for luncheon took place a storm of more than usual severity broke over the ground and, so heavy was the rainfall, the cricket field soon resembled a swamp. But it was not until a renewal of the storm about a quarter past 3 that hopes of further play were quite abandoned.

When the game had been resumed at 12 o'clock Carpenter and Mr Lucas raised the overnight score from 72 to 101, and then the professional was caught at wicket for a skilful 42, which he had taken two hours to put together by three fours, three threes, four twos and singles. The pitch was now affording the bowlers much assistance, and Mr Trumble proved especially difficult to play. Mr Hailey, who had gone in third wicket down at 101, played steadily, while Mr Kortright scored freely, and just before luncheon Essex reduced the lead of their opponents below 80. When play was given up for the day the record stood as follows . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 7 August, page 4)

With the exception of a brief delay through a shower in the morning there was a full day's cricket at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, on Saturday; but the hours left proved insufficient for the game to be played out. There were about 4,000 spectators.

The drawn match was left in an open condition; but, at one time, on Saturday afternoon – viz., when the fifth Australian wicket went at 73 with two hours left for cricket – there appeared a probability that Essex might win. However, the resistance offered by the remaining Australian batsmen was such as to disperse all hopes of a definite issue.

The great features of the match were the wonderful bowling triumphs of the Essex professional, Walter Mead, who is 23 years old; he bowled throughout each Australian innings, taking in all 17 wickets for 205 runs. It was truly a great piece of cricket. On the hard and true wicket of Thursday his spell with the ball lasted three hours and a quarter, and on Saturday, when the turf was helping him, he got his eight wickets in two hours and 35 minutes. Throughout, he kept a fine pitch, varying his pace and getting a lot of work on the ball; indeed, his nice easy action seemed unknown to fatigue. The spectators expressed their sympathy in a substantial manner by subscribing £12 for him, and of this sum a third was given to Pickett. Mr C E Green, who made the presentation, referred to Mead's play at Sheffield, in which his batting and bowling so much helped Essex to a victory over Yorkshire.

When the storm of Friday broke over the Leyton ground and put a stop to further play, Essex, with three wickets in hand, were 67 runs behind. In the 70 minutes which it took them to finish their innings on Saturday morning, 54 runs were made. Mr Hailey carried his bat for 38, a careful and well-played innings of two and a half hours' duration, while Pickett, the last man, scored 25 of the 37 put on for the tenth wicket. There was only a difference of 13 runs between the innings.

After luncheon, when the wicket had become treacherous as the result of the sunshine on the wet surface, the Australians went in a second time. A serious blunder by Mr Taberer in the long-field occurred in Mead's second over, a pretty easy catch from Mr Lyons being dropped by that fieldsman. It was, indeed, a bad over for Essex in other ways, for Mr Lyons gave Mead a sharp return chance from the next ball, while directly afterwards Mr Taberer injured his knee in fielding and had to retire. The partnership for the first wicket yielded 41 in 25 minutes, and then a dextrous return catch by Mead disposed of Mr Lyons. Mr Trott was out first ball, and three other wickets fell quickly; a fine "bailer" from Mead disposed of Mr Bruce.

Five for 73 held out a promise of success for Essex; but Mr Bannerman's steady game probably saved his side from being out for a very meagre score, while late in the innings Messrs Trumble, Turner and Coningham played with vigour. Mr Bannerman was in an hour and three-quarters for his 29, being seventh out, well caught at wicket. Ultimately the Australians were dismissed for 141 after two hours and 35 minutes. Mead had an enthusiastic reception as he returned to the pavilion. Essex, who were left to get 155 for victory, had 25 minutes' play and scored 32 runs, for one wicket, the game being drawn . . .

3 August: SUSSEX v HAMPSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128153.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 4 August, page 8)

This return match was begun yesterday at Southampton, and the day's cricket proved even and interesting. Going in first, Hampshire had up to the luncheon hour made 93 for three wickets; but subsequently the innings was completed for 158, the result of two hours and three-quarters' play. Although nine of their men reached double figures, Sussex at the close of the day had only just tied the home total with a wicket to fall.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 5 August, page 7)

Play in this match was continued yesterday at Southampton. The score at the close of Thursday was equal, but Sussex had one wicket to fall. Their innings quickly closed yesterday morning and Hampshire went in a second time on a slow and difficult pitch.

Dr R Bencraft exercised great care and was batting nearly two hours for his runs, while the complete innings lasted only a quarter of an hour longer. Tate bowled admirably, taking six wickets for 29 runs. Sussex went in to make 109 for victory . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 7 August, page 4)

The victory of Hampshire by 20 runs on Saturday was the result of a thoroughly interesting match at Southampton. On Friday evening Sussex had been left with 70 runs to make to win and seven wickets to fall, and it was more generally thought that this task would be accomplished. Soar and Baldwin, however, bowled so well on the bad wicket that the balance of the innings yielded only 49 runs.

3 August: YORKSHIRE v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128137.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 4 August, page 8)

Yesterday, at Hull, the Yorkshire eleven, who only just escaped defeat in the first match with Derbyshire, had none the best of the cricket with their visitors. Davidson played very well for Derbyshire, but the majority of the side fell victims to the bowling of Wardall, whose six wickets averaged only five runs each.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 5 August, page 7)

Yesterday, at Hull, the wicket was favourable to the bowlers, with the result that, in spite of rain interruptions, great headway was made with this return match. Overnight Yorkshire, going in against their opponents' score of 146, had lost three wickets for 41. The remaining seven fell in an hour yesterday morning for 64 runs, and Derbyshire were left in possession of a lead of 41. Peel and Brown put on 20 for the fifth wicket, but the batting generally was feeble.

Derbyshire started their second innings badly. However, after seven men had been dismissed for 50, Storer and Malthouse added 42 and were still together when stumps were drawn. Derbyshire, with three wickets to fall, are now 133 ahead.

Day 3 (report from Monday 7 August, page 4)

For the second time this season the rain has played a disagreeable part for Derbyshire in their matches with Yorkshire, and the former were on Saturday, at Hull, again robbed of their chances of victory. The favourable position in which the Midland county found themselves was almost wholly due to the stand of Storer and Malthouse.

They got together when seven wickets had fallen for 50, and so effective was their batting that they added 136 before they were separated on Saturday morning. Storer, who was finely caught at point, made his 108 in two hours, containing two sixes and 21 fours. He gave a chance early in his innings to Mr Sellers at slip, and was later on missed by Peel off his own bowling. Malthouse took out his bat for 54.

At the end of the Derbyshire innings rain put a stop to the match, which was drawn. Yorkshire had been left with 272 to make for victory.

The fine form shown by Lancashire in their matches last week at the Oval and Manchester has considerably strengthened their high position among the counties, and their meeting to-day with Yorkshire will be keenly followed. Up to the present the positions are as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	12	9	2	1	7
Lancashire	12	7	3	2	4
Middlesex	10	6	4	0	2
Kent	12	5	3	4	2
Nottinghamshire	11	4	4	3	0
Sussex	11	4	5	2	-1
Surrey	13	5	7	1	-2
Somerset	10	1	7	2	-6
Gloucestershire	11	2	8	1	-6

In this table drawn games are not reckoned, while the losses are deducted from the wins.

Monday 7 August, page 4: THE CANTERBURY WEEK

To-day begins the 52nd annual festival at Canterbury. The cricket programme is very attractive and Kent v Australia and Kent v Nottinghamshire should give no lack of bright and sound play. Kent will be sure to have a very strong eleven to-day, although there seems to be some doubt whether Walter Hearn will appear owing to the indisposition which kept him out of the Surrey game last week.

The Old Stagers, who have always been allies of the cricketers, will play at the theatre on four nights of the week – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The county balls will be held on Wednesday and Friday evenings. During the week, by permission of the commanding officers, the bands of the Cavalry Depot and the 27th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers will play on the cricket ground. The city and the Dane John will be illuminated, and on Thursday evening there is to be a lantern cycle parade.

7 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4019.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 8 August, page 6)

Sussex were largely dependent on the fine batting of Mr G L Wilson for the capital score with which they opened the return match with Gloucestershire at Bristol yesterday. The first contest between the sides, at Brighton, resulted in the success of Sussex by a very narrow margin of runs.

Yesterday's play aroused great interest and the attendance at Ashley-down reached about 5,000. Messrs H V Page and W H Brain filled the places of Murch and Board in the home side, while Sussex, who were without Mr Brann, once more had the services of Mr C A Smith. The visitors were batting altogether about four and a quarter hours, and in this time made 258.

Mr Wilson went in third wicket down at 68, and was seventh to leave at 249, having scored 117 in two and a half hours by 14 fours, eight threes, nine twos and singles. He played fine, free cricket, but the home fieldsmen were kind to him; he escaped at slip before he had scored, and subsequently at 24 and 99 he was missed at wicket and mid-on. Earlier in the day Bean batted vigorously for 50, making seven fours, two threes, three twos and singles. From the figures given below it will be seen that Gloucestershire have started their innings well . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 9 August, page 8)

There was again a very large company at the Ashley-down Ground, Bristol, yesterday, when the second day's play in this match proved interesting . . .

Day 3 (report from Thursday 10 August, page 8)

Fine weather and a fast and true wicket were the favourable conditions of this match to the end. Yesterday the attendance at the Ashley-down ground, Bristol, was again good. Sussex were batting the greater part of the day and eventually declared their innings closed. Finally the game was drawn . . .

7 August: KENT v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4020.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 8 August, page 6)

With weather of a most charming description, a wicket presenting an equally pleasing appearance to the winners of the toss, and a company more numerous than had before graced the famous St Lawrence Ground, it may confidently be asserted that no Canterbury cricket week ever opened under happier conditions than that which began yesterday. The match was between the Australians and the county, which this season can lay claim to being the promoters of three cricket weeks, those at Gravesend and Tonbridge having already been held with an amount of success highly gratifying to all concerned.

Several reasons besides the grand weather might be advanced in explanation of yesterday's unprecedentedly large company. Five Australian teams had previously visited Canterbury. Various improvements have been made on the ground since last year, and certainly none could have been more greatly appreciated than those which had as their effect the better accommodation of the general public.

Before touching upon the cricket of yesterday, it may be mentioned that the Old Stagers have arranged a very attracted programme, and that the social elements of the week bid fair to rival those of previous years.

Proceedings on the cricket ground began just after noon, the Australians, who won the toss for the fifth time in succession, going to the wickets with Messrs Bannerman and Lyons. The former played in characteristic style, getting his runs very slowly; Mr Lyons's method was much freer, but his hitting was by no means without fault. The bowling of both Wright and Alec Hearne was wonderfully good, yet the hard hitting of Mr Lyons was the means of taking themselves score along at a fairly good rate, 46 being scored in 40 minutes. Then Mr Lyons, who had narrowly escaped being caught in the long field, when his score amounted to 41 was dismissed by a catch from a hit in a similar direction.

With Mr Bannerman and Mr G Giffen together the rate of scoring did not increase, and when at 64 the last-named played on the game had lasted an hour. Mr Trott, who came in at the fall of the second wicket, met with more than his share of good luck. He had made five only, when Mr Marchant missed him at short leg; having increased his score to eight he escaped being caught from an exceedingly hard return to the bowler, and then at ten he gave an easy chance to Wright at cover point, which was not accepted. The two latter hits were from Martin, whose bowling was so good that no run was made off his first nine overs. Mr Bannerman in trying to play a straight ball to leg was bowled at 79, having been at the wickets an hour and 40 minutes. At lunch time the score was 91 for three wickets.

After an interval of 50 minutes' duration there was capital cricket by Messrs Trott and Gregory for 25 minutes. Then the first-named was finely caught at slip, the partnership for the fourth wicket having produced 59 runs in 40 minutes. The batsman next dismissed was the chief scorer of the side – Mr Gregory, who, in getting 51, made eight fours, two threes and four twos, and occupied an hour and a quarter. He might have been caught by George Hearne when his score was 30, and the Rev Mr Rashleigh missed him at mid-off just before his dismissal. It is noteworthy that with this innings Gregory advanced his total for the present tour to 1,026.

Five wickets were now down for 178; the remainder fell for an addition of 51 runs during the course of the next 50 minutes, the innings closing at 20 minutes to 5 for 229 runs, having lasted three hours and 50 minutes. The fielding of the Kent men was generally good, but at least six catches were dropped.

Kent went in at five minutes past 5, and in less than 50 minutes three wickets were lost for 58 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 9 August, page 8)

Another fine day caused the St Lawrence Ground to be visited by many thousand spectators early yesterday morning, and the play was again watched with great interest.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 10 August, page 8)

An early start was made yesterday on the St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury, when play in this match was concluded. The Australians required 94 to win and had nine wickets in their second venture with which to obtain them.

At 20 minutes to 12 Mr Bannerman (not out 2) proceeded to the wickets with Mr George Giffen; the bowlers were Wright and A Hearne. Only four were added and the former clean bowled Mr Giffen, while a couple of runs later Mr Trott was finely caught by third man. Three wickets were now placed to the credit of Wright. Mr Gregory, who followed in, cut the ball for four, but then he also was bowled, middle stump. Four for 13.

The fielding was very keen and several overs were sent down without a run. Then Mr Trumble, who had filled the vacancy, made a single, this being the only score in a quarter of an hour. The same batsman then cut a ball of A Hearne's to the boundary, but the next he sent into the hands of cover-point. Half the wickets had now been lost in 50 minutes for 18 runs. Mr Bruce opened with a drive for four to the on and quickly afterwards sent the ball straight for the same number. This batsman then skied a ball which was badly judged by Mr Mason. After making two fours and a couple off A Hearne, Mr Bruce was caught at mid-off in the same over. The colonials now required 55 to win and had only four wickets in hand.

Mr Turner joined Mr Bannerman, who was batting with his wonted patience. The former sent a ball to leg for four from Wright which caused the 50 to be regarding at 20 minutes to 1. Subsequently Mr Turner fell to a catch at third man. Seven down. Mr W Giffen appeared, and at 56 a change was adopted, Wright giving way to Martin. Without addition to the total the last comer was smartly wicket, and on Mr Coningham's assisting Mr Bannerman 41 were yet wanted with two wickets left. When only a couple of these had been gained Mr Coningham fell to a magnificent catch by Mr Rashleigh, fielding deep on the on-side. Nine wickets were lost, and Mr Blackham aided Mr Bannerman, but the colonial captain was clean bowled by A Hearne at a quarter past 1. Total, 60. Thus Kent won a most exciting match by 36 runs.

Mr Bannerman carried his bat through the innings (which had lasted an hour and three-quarters) for seven runs. Although his play was so patient, it is questionable, when he saw his companions being dismissed for such feeble amounts, whether he would not have sited the interests of the colonials by forcing the game a little.

Since their second visit to this country the match between the Australians and Kent has formed the opening feature of the Canterbury week, and of these six encounters (including that on the present cc) Kent have won four thus – in 1884 by 96 runs, in 1886 by ten wickets, in 1890 by 108 runs and in 1893 by 36 runs. The match in 1882 ended in a victory for the Australians by seven wickets, and in 1888 they won by 81 runs. It need scarcely be said that yesterday's success called forth the utmost enthusiasm, and that Kent's win, though unexpected, was thoroughly deserved by their grand bowling and fielding. On the three days of the match it is estimated that there were about 20,000 people present.

7 August: LANCASHIRE v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4021.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 8 August, page 6)

It is to be regretted that the wicket at Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday, should have been spoiled by rain, for widespread interest has been aroused by this match, the result of which will have considerable bearing on the chances of the sides for the foremost position among the counties. At present Yorkshire, as is well known, occupy the first place with seven points, and Lancashire are second with four; but, according to the manner of reckoning, a win in this contest for Lancashire would reduce the difference between the sides to a single.

So far the match has furnished little else than a series of bowling triumphs, and an idea of the play at Old Trafford yesterday may be gleaned by striking an average of runs per wicket in the first innings of each side; the 20 wickets produced only 122 runs in four hours. Lancashire, going in first, had their innings interrupted nearly an hour by a storm; but, exclusive of this delay, they were all out in two and a quarter hours for 64 runs. Baker and Mr Crosfield made some good hits and Ward was in two hours for his runs.

Yorkshire, after losing four men for 22, were disposed of in an hour and 50 minutes for 58 runs. Then Lancashire, with a lead of six, scored seven without loss of wicket.

Although the batsmen were at such a disadvantage, the keenness of the sides was shared by the spectators and the play never seemed dull. An immense crowd assembled and no fewer than 22,554 people paid for admission to the ground. Yorkshire had their strongest eleven, while Mr M'Laren was again able to help the Lancastrians.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 9 August, page 8)

This proved a bowler's match to the end, and when yesterday afternoon, at Manchester, an exciting finish had terminated favourably for Lancashire by five runs, the aggregate of the four innings reached no more than 223, or an average for the 40 wickets of five runs. The game was watched with keenness by about 12,000 spectators and great enthusiasm prevailed.

Lancashire, who had scored seven in their second venture, completed the innings in an hour and a quarter yesterday for 43 runs. Thus Yorkshire had 57 to get for victory. Messrs Jackson and Sellers began the task and played the correct game in hitting at everything. But with the running-out of Mr Jackson at 24 fortune veered round and the whole side was dismissed for 51, Lancashire thus winning by five. Peel and Briggs bowled throughout each innings for their sides and both had wonderful records. In the match Peel took ten wickets for 39 and Briggs 11 for 60.

7 August: SOMERSET v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4022.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 8 August, page 6)

There was a large company on the county ground at Taunton yesterday, when this return match began under very favourable conditions. Somerset, who had their strongest side, went in first and kept their rivals in the field the whole day, scoring in the five hours and a half over which the game extended 358 runs for eight wickets.

In the early part of the day the wicket was slow through the recent rain, but, keeping up the good traditions of the grounds in the west country, it rapidly improved as the day wore on. The first two hours' cricket gave little prospect of the subsequent heavy scoring, as when the fifth wicket fell the record was only 112. But the next three were purchased by Middlesex at a cost of no fewer than 236 runs.

The early game was characterized by the innings of Mr R C N Palairet, who in the hour and a half of his stay made 51. He went in second wicket down at 10 and was fifth out at 112, having hit six fours, a three and three twos. It was after luncheon that the game changed so well for Somerset. Mr Woods and Mr L C H Palairet led the brilliant batting by putting on 79 in an hour for the sixth partnership. Subsequently the attractive play was continued by the Oxford captain, and afterwards by Mr Dunlop and Tyler. Mr Woods made a six, six fours, a three and four twos, and Mr L C H Palairet, who was out at 271 after a stay of two and a half hours, contributed two drives out of the ground for six each, eight fours, seven threes and seven twos. The last-named gave a couple of difficult chances at 19 (to slip) and at 40 (to mid-off).

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 9 August, page 8)

Middlesex had a severe up-hill fight in this match at Taunton, yesterday, and at the end of the day the home side still possessed a great advantage.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 10 August, page 8)

There was an extraordinary day's cricket at Taunton yesterday, when Somerset, who, at the close of the second day were in a very strong position, narrowly escaped defeat. The match, in which over 1,100 runs were obtained, was drawn.

7 August: SURREY v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4023.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 8 August, page 6)

The number of visitors who paid for entrance to the Oval yesterday to see the match between Surrey and Notts was officially returned as 21,681, and these figures with the members must have brought the company up to 25,000.

A start was made shortly after 12, when Mr Dixon, who had beaten Mr Shuter in the toss, opened the visitors' batting with Shrewsbury. From the very beginning the wicket showed signs of bumping, and both Lockwood and Richardson got up awkwardly from the pitch, causing the batsmen to make many false hits. Perhaps the best stroke was one by Mr Dixon, who got a bad length ball from Lockwood away to the square-leg boundary. But disaster soon overtook the batting side, for, with only 16 runs recorded as the result of 20 minutes' play, Shrewsbury was caught at extra slip, where Brockwell made a clever catch very close to the ground.

Richardson's next over was very eventful; Mr Dixon had a single increased to five by an overthrow, Gunn made a drive to the off boundary and then the latter, in trying to cut, was well caught by Henderson at third man. Thus had Notts lost their two greatest batsmen with only 25 runs on the board. At 31 a fast ball from Lockwood broke back and bowled Mr Dixon's off stump.

The game suddenly brightened. Barnes seemed in fine form and Flowers, too, did well. Barnes was warmly cheered for several fine boundary cuts and drives, which sent up 50 after three-quarters of an hour; but when runs were coming at a fast rate and 30 had been added in 20 minutes, Barnes was given out caught at wicket by Rylott, a decision with which the batsman seemed much dissatisfied.

The prospect of the visiting side, which had grown bright while Barnes played so well, again darkened, and the Midland county fared ill. Lockwood bowled splendidly, and a fine bailer from him dismissed Flowers at 61, five wickets being down at this stage as the result of an hour's play. Mr Jones and Daft batted steadily and added 21, when Hayward went on and quickly got Mr Jones caught at mid-on. In his next two overs, Lockwood bowled Daft and Shacklock – both good balls; and at the fall of the eighth wicket only 89 runs were recorded. Mee and Attewell put on 24, the former making one fine boundary cut, which brought up the 100; but Attewell was bowled by the last ball before luncheon, and afterwards the innings quickly ended for 120. Lockwood, who had bowled throughout at the pavilion end, had taken five wickets at a cost of 45 runs.

Since the morning the wicket had much improved and the ball came along much more truly when Surrey went in, which they did at a quarter-past 3. Hayward and Abel, however, found run-getting from Attewell and Shacklock no easy matter, besides which the fielding was very close. But, after 20 minutes had been taken to score seven runs, the batsmen infused more vigour into their game. Both cut and drove well. Hayward made a couple of fours (one a fine cut, run out) from Attewell, and with 50 up in three-quarters of an hour Shacklock was tried at the Vauxhall end. Mee, however, was freely hit; and, at 63, Mr Dixon put Flowers on for him. This alteration was effective, as in his second over Flowers caused Abel to play on. The partnership had yielded 67 runs in 75 minutes, and Abel, whose share was 40, had made eight fours, a three and a two.

Flowers continued his successes, and secured a wicket in each of his next two overs. Maurice Read,

in attempting to hit to leg, had a stump bowled down, and, at 78, Hayward was easily caught at slip. The last-named had played excellently for his 36, which had taken him an hour and 35 minutes to obtain. Three wickets were now down for 78.

Mr W W Read and Henderson, although more than once narrowly escaping from being bowled, played soundly and caused various changes in the attack. They put on 58 runs in 50 minutes before Mr Read skied the ball and was caught by Sherwin running towards short-leg. Henderson helped Mr Key to add 41 more in 25 minutes, and was then bowled; he had been in an hour (?) for 32. Brockwell came in, and at the finish Surrey, with five wickets in hand, were 70 runs ahead.

Mr W W Read, by his 40 at the Oval yesterday, completed his 1,000 runs this year in first-class cricket; his aggregate is now 1,035.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 9 August, page 8)

The brilliant victory secured by Surrey, by ten wickets, on the Oval yesterday afternoon is the first to be gained by them in a county match since the visit to Brighton at the beginning of July. Having cheaply disposed of the visitors through excellent bowling and fielding, they went in on an improving pitch and achieved a batting triumph which was marked by the great uniformity of the scores. They got their runs, too, against very skilful bowling and fielding.

The Notts batsmen failed before the bowling of Lockwood and Richardson, whose attack has not possessed for some time so much sting and deadliness as was seen on this occasion. Beautiful weather prevailed and there was again a vast crowd of people present; the spectators were estimated at 18,000, of whom 15,000 paid for admission.

7 August: DERBYSHIRE v ESSEX (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128379.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 8 August, page 6)

The hours of cricket at Derby, yesterday, in this return match were mostly occupied by the innings of the home county. Derbyshire went in first and were not dismissed until 262 had been made in four and a half hours.

The chief merit of this excellent score belonged to Bagshaw and Storer. The former put together his 96 in three hours without giving a chance. His principal hits were seven fours, eight threes and 12 twos. Storer had a couple of escapes in making his runs in two hours. He contributed eight fours, a three and eight twos. The spectators subscribed £15 for these batsmen, £10 being awarded to Storer because of his fine play against Yorkshire last week. It will be seen from the score that Hulme, the fast bowler, did not arrive in time to take his innings.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 9 August, page 8)

Yesterday, at Derby, the Essex eleven were playing an up-hill game throughout the day. Their first innings was characterized by the fine defence of Mr Lucas, who made 56 in two hours by seven fours, four threes, three twos and singles. When the visitors followed on Messrs Lucas and Owen stayed together two hours and 20 minutes and added 73 runs. Hulme bowled well.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 10 August, page 8)

A brilliant batting achievement by Bagshaw and Mr L G Wright, of Derbyshire, marked the close of this match at Derby yesterday, when Essex, after fighting keenly, were decisively beaten.

Lancashire's victory at Manchester yesterday over Yorkshire leaves only one point of difference between the positions of the first two counties. The record up to the present is as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	13	9	3	1	6
Lancashire	13	8	3	2	5
Middlesex	10	6	4	0	2
Kent	12	5	3	4	2
Nottinghamshire	12	4	5	3	-1
Surrey	14	6	7	1	-1
Sussex	11	4	5	2	-1
Somerset	10	1	7	2	-6
Gloucestershire	11	2	8	1	-6

In this table drawn games are not reckoned, while the losses are deducted from the wins.

Wednesday 9 August, page 8: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

In this match at the Oval next Monday the England team will consist of Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr G M'Gregor, Mr F S Jackson, Shrewsbury, Gunn, Briggs, Mold, A Ward, Lockwood and another. The proceeds of the contest will be devoted to the benefit of Maurice Read.

10 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4024.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 11 August, page 6)

Middlesex followed up their batting successes against Somerset with heavy scoring in the return game with Gloucestershire, began yesterday on the College Ground at Clifton. In the five hours over which cricket extended they made 340 for the loss of only six wickets. The longest partnerships were by Messrs Stoddart and Foley (113 for the second), Messrs Foley and O'Brien (75 for the third) and Rawlin and Mr M'Gregor (122 in 80 minutes for the sixth). Dr W G Grace's son and Mr F Townsend's son appear for the first time for the county.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 August, page 10)

Although not increasing their score to such an extent as might have been expected with the wicket hard and true, Middlesex got much the better of the match at Clifton yesterday. The last four men added 45 runs to the overnight score, after which the remainder of the day was taken up with the first innings of Gloucestershire.

Dr W G Grace scored a splendid 68 (eight fours, a three, 1 twos and singles), being sixth out at 114. The successful play of the later home batsmen improved Gloucestershire's position, but to-day they have to follow on against a majority of 150.

Day 3 (report from Monday 14 August, page 5)

Those who looked for a stout up-hill fight by the western county at Clifton on Saturday had only disappointment in store for them. Indeed, the collapse of Gloucestershire in the second innings was quite startling in its nature and, though the rainfall of the previous night had affected the pitch, no one expected to see the powerful batting side dismissed in such a wholesale manner by Rawlin and Hearne, who, bowling unchanged, finished off the innings in 90 minutes. Dr W G Grace's son and Dr E M Grace alone reached double figures.

Rawlin met with wonderful success with the ball, keeping a beautiful pitch and getting on a lot of break. His full bowling figures for the match were 12 wickets for 79 runs. Gloucestershire, who had followed on with arrears of 150, were beaten by an innings and 98 runs.

10 August: KENT v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4025.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 11 August, page 6)

A thunderstorm which burst over Canterbury early yesterday morning cleared the atmosphere and afforded a pleasant relief from the oppressive heat of the previous three days. The counties engaged came fresh from very different experiences. In the early part of the week Kent had achieved a brilliant triumph over the Australians, while Nottinghamshire had been defeated by Surrey.

Throughout the afternoon the company was exceedingly numerous, and the scene proved as thoroughly English as it has always been. Keen interest was taken by the spectators in the excellent cricket, while the large preponderance of ladies was quite in keeping with the name the day has earned for itself. In addition to the large number of tents which belted a great part of the field of play the members' enclosure on the upper side of the St Lawrence ground, backed by the hop gardens, was well filled; here, too, the bands of the Cavalry Depot and the 27th Inniskilling Fusiliers were stationed and played various selections. The match was a return to that played at Nottingham, which was drawn,

Kent were successful in the toss, and at ten minutes past 12 Mr Mason and A Hearne were placed on their defence. Attewell and Mee opened the attack, Easby fielding for Flowers, who was indisposed. A Hearne sent the ball over the head of third man for three, and then cut Mee for the same number. Mr Mason obtained eight in two hits before he had an escape at the hands of Mr Jones at short slip. Profiting by the indulgence he cut Attewell twice to the ring and caused that bowler, when 36 runs had been recorded in three-quarters of an hour, to give way to Shacklock, from whom Mr Mason secured a dozen by two cuts and an off-drive. The 50 was completed in 65 minutes. A single later A Hearne was bowled. His place was taken by George Hearne.

Mr Mason sent Shacklock to leg for four, and Attewell went on again at 60. The separation was, however, effected at the other end, as, after batting an hour and a half, Mr Mason was secured at wicket. Mr Patterson, the Kent captain, had the ill-luck to be bowled in the same over. Two and three for 78. Mr Rashleigh joined G Hearne, and at the interval the total had been advanced to 85.

Subsequently the bowling was undertaken by Attewell and Mee, and just before 3 o'clock the 100 was reached. Mr Rashleigh gave a chance to Mr Jones at slip, and the score was soon taken to 120, when Shacklock again went on. Still runs came, until at 139 Mr Rashleigh, who had been in a little over an hour, played on. No fewer than 61 had been added for the wicket. Mr Le Fleming was credited with a lucky snick through the slips, by which the 150 was reached at a quarter to 4. Quickly afterwards G Hearne, who had been batting carefully for 39, was taken by third man, and five wickets were down for 153.

Mr Stewart played on before he had much opportunity of scoring; but Messrs Le Fleming and Marchant revived the hopes of the home party by putting on 25 before the latter returned the ball. Four runs later Mr Le Fleming was bowled, and at 188 Wright retire, run out, while the catching of Martin at mid-off brought the innings to a close after four hours' play – total, 202; time, 5 o'clock.

Shrewsbury and Mr Jones started the Nottingham batting to the bowling of Wright and Martin. When only 13 were obtained the amateur was dismissed, while three runs later Barnes was run out.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 August, page 10)

The St Lawrence ground, Canterbury, was largely attended yesterday when play between these counties was continued. Again the weather held fine. Indeed, with the exception of Wednesday night's thunderstorm, the whole of the five days have been delightful. Flowers continued to be indisposed and his place in the Notts eleven was definitely taken by T Attewell, who had been telegraphed for. In all likelihood, however, Flowers will be able to play for England at the Oval on Monday against the Australians. Two bands (the Cavalry Depot and the 7th Inniskilling Fusiliers) were once more on the ground.

At half-past 11 the game was restarted when a large number of spectators had assembled. Shrewsbury (26) and Daft (8) were then opposed by Wright and Martin. Runs were obtained at a pretty steady pace until the 50 was completed at a quarter to 12. Then came a decided lull and, although Shrewsbury cut Martin for four, 25 minutes were occupied in scoring the next ten. A Hearne now relieved Martin and maiden after maiden was bowled; indeed the run-getting was so tedious that an hour's play yielded only 25 runs. Then Shrewsbury drove a ball of A Hearne's for four and cut another to the boundary. A further variation in the attack was adopted at 80, Mr Mason going on instead of Wright, and in his third over Daft cut him for four to which his companion responded by driving A Hearne to the ring. At length when he had been batting a couple of hours for 28 Daft was splendidly stumped.

Three wickets were now lost for 99, and the total was sent beyond the hundred by Shrewsbury cutting the ball for four after he had been joined by Gunn. The new comer cut a ball dangerously close to Wright and it went for four, while Shrewsbury secured the same number by an on drive. At 122 Wright resumed bowling in the place of Mr Mason, while four runs later George Hearne relieved his brother. No further wicket had fallen at the interval, when the score stood at 131.

Subsequently the bowling was again undertaken by George Hearne and Wright. Gunn reopened his account with an off-drive for four. A piece of bad fortune now befell the home county; Shrewsbury cut the ball late and A Hearne and Mr Le Fleming both went for it in the slips but cannoned with the result that, although the former touched it, the batsman escaped. At that point he had made 82. The 150 was telegraphed at five minutes past 3, and a quarter of an hour later Shrewsbury with a drive for four completed his 100, the total then being 171. Gunn soon cut George Hearne to the scoring stand, and a double change in the attack was tried, Martin and Mr Mason now being intrusted with it. The latter was superseded by George Hearne at 192 and a chance to the wicket-keeper off Martin was allowed to go by. The Kent total of 202 was passed at 3.50 after four and a quarter hours' batting. It may be mentioned that this was only 15 minutes slower time than the home eleven had taken on the previous day.

A Hearne and Wright resumed bowling a few overs later. From the latter Shrewsbury drove the ball to the on for four, and the next feature was the completion of Gunn's 50. Quickly after this Shrewsbury was out to a well-judged catch at long field on by Mr Rashleigh; he was batting for about four hours and a half, while his partnership with Gunn had lasted two hours. The principal hits in his 124 were 18 fours, a three and a dozen twos.

Four wickets were now lost for 219 when W Attewell assisted Gunn, who made a hard off-drive to the ring, the ball striking one of the spectators in the face. W Attewell was now let off at slip by A Hearne from Wright's bowling, whilst immediately afterwards the same batsman was missed by George Hearne off a ball of his brother's, which had been severely driven to long-off. Martin and

Mr Mason were next tried, and a ball from the former was soon played on by W Attewell. Five for 260.

Mr Wright came to the assistance of Gunn, who, among other items, cut Martin capitally for four. When the total had been taken to 279 Mr Wright was bowled by his namesake. Six down. Shacklock the next comer drove Wright to the on for four, but this was his only contribution, as at 285 a good catch at mid-on dismissed him, while, for an additional half-dozen runs only, Mee was stumped. T Attewell became Gunn's next partner and a leg hit by him for three caused 300 to be signalled just before 6 o'clock and 10 minutes later stumps were drawn for the day. Gunn had been batting over four hours.

Day 3 (report from Monday 14 August, page 5)

Both from a cricketing and a festival point of view "the Week" at Canterbury has proved highly successful. Delightful weather on each of the six days and interesting cricket caused the attendances to be exceedingly large. Kent started well by gaining a plucky victory over the Australians, and in their second encounter they were fortunate in being able to turn what looked like a defeat into a drawn match.

On Saturday Mr C W Wright (the Notts captain) laboured under the great disadvantage of not being able to utilize the bowling of Shacklock, who was indisposed, though he took his place in the field. Thus the visitors were practically limited to the services of Mee and W Attewell, with Barnes as an occasional change. In Kent's second innings, when six of their wickets had gone down with only 24 runs, their defeat seemed almost a foregone conclusion; but the Rev W Rashleigh, who had batted well on the Thursday, played, as the saying goes, "like a book." He never gave a chance and his 101 was solely the result of skilful batting.

Wright played cautiously, and thus enabled Mr Rashleigh to do the hitting. When this professional was caught at slip and Kent's venture ended, it turned out that Mr Patterson, the Kent captain, had announced that he closed the innings before the ball that dismissed Wright had been delivered, but the batsman played it and the umpires ruled that he was out. This incident naturally leads to the suggestion that it might be desirable for the Marylebone Club to add to law 54, after the words "at any time the in-side shall be empowered to declare their innings at an end," the words "at the close of an over."

Notts went in at 5.25 with 126 set them and 50 minutes only left of time. Mr Jones and Shrewsbury were opposed by Wright and A Hearne. Such extreme caution was exercised by both batsmen that only a single came in 25 minutes, and then Mr Jones played on. There being no hope of finishing the match, play now ceased and it was left drawn . . .

10 August: LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4026.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 11 August, page 6)

With A G Steel and various members of the regular Lancashire and Cheshire elevens in the team, Liverpool and District was a strong combination for the Australians to meet yesterday on the Aigburth Ground. There were some 4,000 spectators of an interesting day's cricket.

Mr Trott hit a six and seven fours in a capital innings and Mr Bannerman played with his characteristic care, being in two hours for 27 runs. Oakley bowled very well.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 August, page 10)

At Aigburth, Liverpool, yesterday, the Australians won by an innings and 34 runs. Messrs M'Leod and Coningham had fine bowling figures.

10 August: SOMERSET v SUSSEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4027.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 11 August, page 6)

In this match at Taunton yesterday the cricket was of a fairly even character. Somerset's early play rather foreshadowed a big total; but after the score had reached 164 at luncheon the last six wickets fell in three-quarters of an hour for an addition of 19 runs. Mr L C H Palairret, the Oxford captain, made a fine 73 in an hour and a half, hitting eight fours, a three and seven twos. Humphreys after the interval got five of the Somerset men out for 12 runs.

Somerset in two hours and a quarter went to within 53 of their rivals' figures at the cost of five wickets.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 August, page 10)

At Taunton, yesterday, Mr J B Challen, whose services the county is not always able to command, made without a fault 108 in two hours by 17 fours, three threes, four twos and singles. His most profitable partner was Mr Woods, with whom he added 80 in 40 minutes.

At the beginning of the day Sussex had lost their last five wickets in an hour for 52. Last evening the visitors began the task of getting 266 to win . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 14 August, page 5)

At Taunton, on Saturday, Sussex were saved by bad weather from a decisive defeat. Overnight Sussex had gone in to obtain 266 to win and had lost two good men for 43. Mr Woods bowled splendidly, and Mr Hedley, too, met with some success.

The visitors lost Messrs Murdoch and Newham for the addition of 14 runs, and half the side had gone by the time the record reached 66. Mr Brann played steadily and received considerable assistance from Guttridge, who helped him to add 25. Subsequently, wickets fell rapidly, and Humphreys, the last man, had to come in when 167 runs were still wanted. Eighteen were secured, and then the rain set in. All hope of finishing the match was not given up until a quarter past 5, at which time the game was abandoned and left drawn. There had been some showers earlier in the day.

10 August: LEICESTERSHIRE v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/124/124187.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 11 August, page 6)

Yesterday was a day of bowling triumphs at Leicester, and the 31 wickets which fell averaged less than five runs each. As might be imagined from these figures, the pitch was treacherous. Leicestershire at the drawing of stumps wanted 48 to win, with nine wickets to fall. Surrey sent down only a weak side.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 August, page 10)

Although Richardson's fast bowling was again very effective yesterday at Leicester, the home county completed the task set them of making 56 to win in the last innings, and won by five wickets. Considerable credit for getting the runs belonged to Pougher, who hit vigorously.

The last time that Leicestershire beat Surrey was in 1888, at Leicester, by 11 runs on a bad pitch. At one period in yesterday's play Richardson's five wickets had cost only two runs.

10 August: HAMPSHIRE v WARWICKSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128795.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 11 August, page 6)

In this match, begun at Southampton yesterday, Hampshire scored 204 and Warwickshire lost nine wickets for 182.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 12 August, page 10)

Yesterday, at Southampton, Hampshire did well against Warwickshire, who, so far this season, have not lost to another second-class county. Hampshire's scores were 204 and 318 (Captain Wynyard 154) against Warwickshire's 182 and 23 for two wickets.

Day 3 (report from Monday 14 August, page 5)

The Hampshire eleven have again distinguished themselves. Only last week they beat almost the full strength of Sussex after an exciting finish, while on Saturday, at Southampton, they most decisively defeated Warwickshire, who previously had won all their second-class county matches this season. Hampshire's victory of 267 runs was mainly due to the fine batting of Captain Wynyard, Mr Hill and Mr Wood, and on Saturday to the capital bowling of the young professional Light and Mr Steele.

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Friday 11 August, page 6: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

For third man, at the Oval next Monday, Flowers has been asked by the Surrey executive to fill the 11th place in the England side. The other names, already announced in The Times, are Dr Grace, Mr Stoddart, Mr Jackson, Mr M'Gregor, Gunn, Shrewsbury, Lockwood, Mold, Briggs and A Ward.

Friday 11 August, page 6: THE AUSTRALIAN TEAM

It is now definitely settled that the Australian team are to visit America and Canada on their way back to the colonies. The team will leave Liverpool by the Cunard steamship Servia on September 19 and proceed directly to New York, whence they will visit, in succession, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York, Montreal, Toronto, Detroit, Chicago, St Paul, Minneapolis, Winnipeg and Victoria (Vancouver). From Vancouver the team will probably visit San Francisco and return thence to Victoria, whence they will sail by the steamship Warrimoo (Messrs Huddart, Parker and Co's Line) to Sydney on November 14.

Three county matches ended on Saturday, but only one of them was brought to a definite issue – viz., that at Clifton, where Middlesex by their success gained third position. To-day's meeting of Yorkshire and Middlesex at Bradford has aroused very great interest. The positions up to the present are as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	13	9	3	1	6
Lancashire	13	8	3	2	5
Middlesex	12	7	4	1	3
Kent	13	5	3	5	2
Nottinghamshire	13	4	5	4	-1
Surrey	14	6	7	1	-1
Sussex	13	4	5	4	-1
Somerset	12	1	7	4	-6
Gloucestershire	13	2	9	2	-7

In this table drawn games are not reckoned, while the losses are deducted from the wins.

Monday 14 August, page 5: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

There is still a little doubt existing as to the actual constitution of the England side to meet the Australians in the second of the representative matches at the Oval this morning. A Hearne was telegraphed for at Canterbury on Saturday, presumably to be held in reserve in case of Flowers's inability to play, while Mr M'Gregor, at Clifton, expressed a fear that owing to a strain he might find it difficult to appear.

The names as chosen are: - Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr F S Jackson, Mr G M'Gregor, Shrewsbury, Gunn, Briggs, Mold, Lockwood, A Ward and Flowers, with A Hearne as twelfth man. This is a very fine side, but the absence of Mr W W Read is again the cause of considered surprise. The proceeds of the game are to be given to the benefit fund of Maurice Read, who has been in the Surrey Eleven for 14 years.

Monday 14 August, page 5: THE CHELTENHAM WEEK

A couple of very attracted matches have been arranged for this popular festival in Gloucestershire v Somerset and Gloucestershire v the Australians. To-day the teams in the former contest will consist of Messrs H T Hewett . . .

Dr W G Grace will be helping England at the Oval, while, owing to a sprain, it is doubtful whether Captain Luard will be able to take the eleventh place.

Monday 14 August, page 5: YORKSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

With Messrs Stoddart and M'Gregor claimed by England's match at the Oval, the Middlesex team has been rather severely handicapped for the return with Yorkshire, fixed for to-day at Bradford. Mr A J Webbe, however, has got together a good eleven, which will consist of himself . . .

Mr F S Jackson will be away for Yorkshire helping England, and the home team will comprise Lord Hawke . . .

14 August: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4028.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 August, page 9)

Although the first of the three representative matches which are to be engaged in was drawn last month at Lord's in England's favour, there was no abatement of interest in the second engagement. This was entered upon yesterday at Kennington Oval in delightful weather and before about 15,000 spectators, of whom 12,720 paid at the turnstiles.

In selecting their team the Surrey executive were fortunate in being able to have Dr W G Grace, who was kept out of the Lord's match by an injured hand. In addition to the captain there were three other players who did not figure in the first fixture – Mr W W Read, A Ward and Briggs. It was found that Flowers, after all, was scarcely well enough to play. The services of Wainwright could have been secured, but Yorkshire could not spare him. The Australians were precisely the same as those who played at head-quarters.

It was gratifying to find so large a company, not only on account of the interesting nature of the encounter, but also because the profits are for the benefit of so deserving a cricketer as Maurice Read. He is still a valuable member of the Surrey team, and his fearless batting on all wickets and his beautiful fielding have, during he 14 years he has been engaged with the county, fully merited the substantial honour they are paying him. England carried all before them in their batting yesterday, but in this respect they were assisted by the indulgence of their opponents, as the first wicket, which went well into three figures, should certainly not have reached two.

England, as at Lord's, won the toss, and at five minutes past 12 Dr W G Grace and Mr Stoddart began the batting. Mr Turner led the attack from the pavilion, with his field laced thus: - Mr Blackham, wicket-keeper; Mr Trott, point; Mr M'Leod, cover-point; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr Gregory, extra mid-off; Mr Graham, long-off; Mr Trumble, slip; Mr Giffen, extra slip; Mr Bruce, third man; and Mr Lyons, mid-on. In the opening over Dr Grace made a lofty cut for four.

Mr Trumble had charge of the bowling at the western end, with his men disposed as follows: - Mr Blackham, wicket-keeper; Mr Trott, point; Mr Turner, cover-point; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr M'Leod, extra mid-off; Mr Bruce, long-off; Mr Giffen, slip; Mr Graham, third man; Mr Lyons, mid-on; and Mr Gregory, long-on.

Only a single came from six overs. The batsmen were both steady and the bowlers kept a good length. This quietude was disturbed by Dr W G Grace, who got well on to an off ball from Mr Trumble and drove it finely to the boundary. Mr Stoddart, when he had made a single, gave a possible chance to Mr Trumble at short slip. The over (Mr Turner's) continued to be eventful, for Mr Stoddart, having driven the ball to the off for four, should have been easily caught by Mr Trott at point. Thus the Australians had not begun well, and the chances thrown away might have dulled the ardour of any eleven. Not so, however, with our visitors, who abated none of their keenness.

Mr Stoddart, although he made a couple on the leg side, was not playing Mr Turner too confidently and mis-timed him repeatedly. Indeed, the wicket seemed a little uncertain and Dr Grace found Mr Trumble somewhat difficult. At this stage the batting furnished few points of note, and more than half an hour was taken to make the first 21. After a false stroke, by which he gained a couple in the

slips, Mr Stoddart showed something of his true form by sending a ball that rose awkwardly away to the leg boundary – a skilful stroke. Dr Grace was then beaten by one from Mr Trumble that just missed the stumps.

Three-quarters of an hour passed before the first change was tried, Mr M'Leod going on for Mr Trumble at 40. Dr Grace pulled a ball of Mr Turner's round for four. Fifty minutes had been occupied in making 40; but the game grew brighter and Mr Stoddart got a beautiful four – a drive from Mr M'Leod. A further variation in the bowling took place at 48, Mr Giffen going on for Mr Turner, after an hour's play. In his fourth over Mr M'Leod had a possible return chance from Mr Stoddart when he had made 30, and then his companion got four by a bad hit through the slips, the ball just passing over Mr Giffen's head. There was a unanimous "Oh" from the crowd as the ball went bounding to the ring. It was this four that sent up the 50 in an hour and a few minutes. The next best hit was to leg by Mr Stoddart, who soon afterwards reached his 50 in an hour and ten minutes, the total at this point being 80.

With the score travelling so fast a further alteration was tried in the bowling and Mr Trott was put on for Mr M'Leod. But his slow leg-breaks were only fruitful of runs. Dr Grace drove to the off for four, and then a sharp single caused plenty of applause. The English captain for a time scored quicker than his partner, whose lead he soon reduced. A good piece of work in the long field by Mr Graham was the best thing in fielding so far. Mr Stoddart, when he had Mr Trott's bowling to play, quickly drove the ball loftily over Mr M'Leod's head to the off boundary, and then gained three on the leg side. In this way the hundred went up at the end of 90 minutes, amidst loud cheers.

Mr Trott seemed far too well liked by the batsmen to please the Australian captain and Mr Trumble went on again four runs later. The incidents now were few, the overs mostly being maidens and the fielding excellent. Then Dr Grace nearly played a ball of Trumble's on, but in the same over this batsman sent it to leg for four (a fine stroke) which caused him to reach his 50 in an hour and three-quarters. Mr Bruce relieved Mr Giffen at 113. The only effect of this change was to enable Mr Stoddart to make a good leg stroke for three and Dr W G Grace cut the ball for four. Mr Turner relieved Mr Trumble at 120, but the batsmen were not separated at the interval, when the total had reached 134.

Large as the company had been in the morning, it was found to have increased when the game was resumed at ten minutes to 3. Messrs Trumble and Turner were the bowlers. Dr Grace was appealed against for l-b-w, but it was disallowed. Beyond an on drive for three and a capital cut and leg hit, each for four, to Mr Stoddart, the play for a little while was generally quiet. The Middlesex batsman gave an easy chance to Mr M'Leod at extra slip, which was not taken; but the next ball he played on. His innings was characterized by fine hitting, but there were many errors. It was made up of 11 fours, six threes, five twos and singles. In the following over Dr Grace made a bad stroke under the ball, which short slip secured. Both he and Mr Stoddart were out at the same total, their partnership having lasted two hours and a quarter for 151. Among his hits were nine fours and eight twos.

Shrewsbury and Gunn (who, by the way, had run up 120 while together last week at Canterbury) batted with their usual care, and most of the off balls were left untouched. Gunn hit a full toss to the off boundary, and altogether the play was very correct, yet runs were scarce. Gunn gave what looked like a chance at the wicket on the off side. Shrewsbury brightened matters with a leg hit for four, and was quickly afterwards credited with eight in an over of Mr Trumble's. Then Gunn cut Mr Turner finely to the ring, and these occasional fours kept the run-getting up to a good average, as 40 were recorded in 35 minutes. A single caused "200" to be signalled after three hours' play.

Mr Giffen at once displaced Mr Turner, and with his second ball Gunn's middle stump was bowled down, 49 having been put on for the wicket.

A Ward came and made a straight drive which Mr Graham almost ran to in time to secure the ball. An appeal against Ward for l-b-w having been negatived, Shrewsbury obtained six in one over from Mr Trumble, which brought Mr M'Leod on at 226. The play was still steady, and with the exception of a single or two it remained so for a time, the fielding being close and the bowling good. An awakening came by Shrewsbury securing ten in an over of Mr M'Leod's by three on-drives, one of these being exceptionally hard. Ward made a bad stroke through the slips, from which four came, and Shrewsbury responded with an off drive to the spectators. A single which followed enabled him to complete his 50 after an hour and three-quarters' play.

Mr Trott was tried for an over (in which 12 came) in place of Mr M'Leod, and then Mr Turner came on, while the first-named bowler crossed to the other end. Ward effected a remarkably clean cut to the boundary, and the cricket grew so lively that Mr Giffen came on again at the pave and Mr Lyons received a trial. Now ensued a further spell of quietude, broken by Ward, who got four through the slips, which raised his score to 50, and four byes coming immediately afterwards sent the total up to 300 after 4 hours and 35 minutes' play. Mr Giffen continued to bowl well and at length tempted Shrewsbury to hit out at a ball which was capitally caught in the outfield. He had been batting two hours and 25 minutes, and had made 66 out of the 152 obtained while he was in, 103 having been put on for the wicket; his runs were the result of sturdy batting and comprised nine fours, a three, six twos &c.

Mr W W Read started by driving a ball of Mr Lyons's to the on for four. Then Ward was out to a fine return catch, Mr Giffen jumping and taking the ball high up with the right hand. He had been in an hour and three-quarters for eight fours, a three, five twos and singles.

Half the wickets were now down for 311. Mr Jackson (who did so well in the England match at Lord's) started batting in a most vigorous manner. He sent Mr Lyons to the on and square-leg (twice) for four while he made eight in the next over from Mr Giffen, and was credited with 24 in a quarter of an hour. Mr Turner was tried again at 324 for Mr Lyons. Each batsman cut him to the ring, and then Mr Jackson made two square-leg hits among the spectators in an over from Mr Giffen. As 53 were obtained in half an hour, Mr Trumble was put on again. Mr Jackson, when he had made 35, gave a difficult chance to Mr Gregory in the deep field. The Yorkshire batsman put up a ball which both slip and point went for and missed. At half-past 6, when 67 had been put on by Messrs Jackson and Read, stumps were drawn for the day . . .

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

Another glorious summer's day and sterling cricket left little to be desired at Kennington Oval yesterday. The attendance was larger even than on Monday and, with 13,061 paying for admission, probably reached 16,000. Those who believe in the saying that it cannot be too hot for cricket had the weather to their heart's content, though the atmosphere seemed purer than on the previous day.

There were many special features of the day's play. The English score of 483 is the highest yet attained by them in representative matches against the Australians, their previous highest score, 434, being made on the same ground in 1886. It should be remarked, however, that the 1884 Australian team eclipsed this record – also at Kennington – with 551. Six batsmen shared in the heavy scoring; but the palm was carried off by Mr Jackson, who alone passed the century. Since he

first became known to cricket by his fine school-boy form at Harrow, he has gone in increasing his reputation at Cambridge and for Yorkshire. There were three partnerships of over a hundred during the home batting, and it was only the fall of the seventh wicket that broke the sequence of double figures.

Although the Australians collapsed so miserably in their opening spell at the wicket, they played up gallantly against such terrible odds in their follow-on, and during the last two hours it seemed scarcely creditable that the same side were batting. Mr Bannerman completed his 1,000 runs for Australia during the present tour, and is the seventh who has reached this number. The bowling of Lockwood and Briggs, the wicket-keeping of Mr M'Gregor and the English fielding generally were excellent.

The Australians entered the field soon after half-past 11, and the thousands already assembled gave them a hearty cheer, which was repeated when Mr F S Jackson (49) and Mr W W Read (21) proceeded to the wickets. Mr Trumble started the bowling, and Mr Jackson gave promise of further fast scoring by a beautiful off-drive to the boundary from the third ball, which sent his figures to 53 – a number that had taken him only three-quarters of an hour to make. Mr Turner bowled from the pavilion end, and opened with a maiden over, well played by Mr Read. Although long since the game had seemed a losing one for the Australians, their bowling and fielding gave no evidence of decreased keenness, and the crowd soon had something to applaud in the fine work of Mr Bruce at third man.

Then came a good cut for three by Mr Read, followed by a couple to the same batsman – a short ball well got away on the leg-side. Mr Jackson continued in his vigorous vein, which produced a fine hit to the off-boundary from Mr Trumble. Three to the on (a characteristic pull) by Mr Read took the score close up to the fourth hundred, and then Mr Jackson, with a couple, shot the total beyond it when the morning's cricket was scarcely 20 minutes old. This brisk rate of run-getting brought on Mr Giffen at the top end for Mr Trumble at 409. Mr Jackson soon afterwards drove the ball straight to the spectators, to which the Surrey batsman replied by hitting it to leg for four. More freedom by Mr Jackson caused Mr Gregory to go into the deep field to help Mr Graham. When he had bowled three overs Mr Giffen was supplanted by Mr M'Leod, and he crossed to the pavilion end, thus relieving Mr Turner. The batsmen, in the first hour and ten minutes of their partnership, had put on 100. In Mr Giffen's third over from the pavilion end he clean bowled Mr Read, who was beaten in playing back. The partnership had realized 131 in 65 minutes, while Mr Read had obtained his 52 in an hour and three-quarters. It included eight fours, two threes and three twos. Six down.

Briggs was bowled off stump by the first ball (a very good one) he received. Lockwood then joined Mr Jackson and made seven by an on-drive and cut. The Yorkshire batsman played very freely, although he occasionally ran risks. A cheer went round the ground as he ran past Mr Stoddart's score and made his own the highest on the side. It was curious to note with what exactness the spectators followed these players. Lockwood stayed long enough to reach double figures, and was then rather cleverly caught and bowled by Mr Giffen, who took the ball with one hand. Eight for 456.

The Australian bowlers still felt the vigour of Mr Jackson, who got a full toss from Mr Giffen well away to the square-leg boundary. The company now riveted their attention on Mr Jackson and the prospect of his reaching the 100. Mr Giffen again treated him to a full pitch; from this he made a couple, and got five more in the same over. Mr M'Gregor ran his friend's runs well, for he was only just home when a splendid return by Mr Bruce from the boundary knocked the middle stump

down.

Mr Jackson was 98 when he lost Mr M'Gregor – l-b-w. Some anxiety was felt for the Cambridge captain's reaching the century as Mold, the last man, came in. He makes no pretence to be a batsman, so he played Mr Giffen's last ball with his legs. Mr Jackson made a single and Mold had to finish Mr M'Leod's over. This he did safely, and at length Mr Jackson drove a ball splendidly, which pitched on top of the zinc-covered stand by the side of the stand and bounded over it. This got his hundred after two and a quarter hours' play. He cut the ball to third man in the same over and was run out from it. Thus an exciting finish was furnished to a great innings. Mr Jackson's 103 was the result of the most brilliant hitting, and was made up of 13 fours, four threes, 11 twos and singles.

The English innings closed at five minutes past 1 for 483. The game had lasted seven hours exclusive of intervals, so that the average rate of scoring was just under 70 an hour. It was only right that Mr Giffen should have the best bowling figures. On both days he had done well, and his record of seven wickets for 128 in such a big innings was really wonderful.

Messrs Bannerman and Lyons started the Australian batting at 25 minutes past 1. Lockwood opened the bowling at the pavilion end and Mold started from the western end. The English captain had thus started with his fast bowlers, and such was their pace that Mr M'Gregor stood back at both ends. Mr Bannerman twice got Lockwood away to the leg boundary. The play was bright and promising. A capital boundary cut by Mr Lyons called forth loud applause. Runs came at the rate of one a minute to 27, when Briggs went on for Mold. The change proved most efficacious. Mr Lyons drove the first ball for a couple, but the second beat him, as, in trying to get it round to the on, he was bowled middle stump. One for 30 obtained, in half an hour. This batsman was the most dangerous on the Australian side, and with Mr Trott on the scene the spectators settled themselves down for quiet and more ordinary play. Mr Trott, however, was bowled at 31, and just before luncheon Mr Bannerman was dismissed.

After the interval Mr Graham (the new man) was caught at wicket from the second ball sent him, and thus, with four batsmen out for 32, things were rapidly growing worse for the visitors. Mr Giffen came in, and Briggs took charge of the bowling from the upper end. Mr Gregory got him round to the leg boundary. Mr M'Gregor, since Mr Lyons went, had been standing up to the bowling. He was struck on the knee by a full-pitched ball from Lockwood, which just missed the batsman's face. Then, in Briggs's next over, Mr Gregory was out, l-b-w, and five wickets for 40 was the result of 50 minutes' play.

Messrs Giffen and Bruce got together. The former cut Lockwood for four and the latter hit the other bowler to the square-leg boundary. This bright prospect was spoiled by another good catch at wicket, low down on the off-side, which dismissed Mr Giffen. Six for 48. Mr Trumble arrived, and Mr M'Gregor again stood back to Lockwood. A cut for four by the last comer sent the 50 up to 3.20. One of the best things the spectators had to cheer for some time was Briggs's clever fielding of his own bowling, especially in one instance, when he ran to mid-off and stopped a drive. A few quiet overs followed, and then at 57 a good ball from Briggs broke in and struck Mr Trumble's leg stump. Seven for 57.

The Australians' misfortunes continued, as Mr M'Leod, after making a couple, was well caught at forward short-leg. Mr Turner went in for hitting, but the bowling was too good to admit of liberties being taken with it, and at 69 he was bowled – middle stump. Mr Blackham joined Mr Bruce, and these batsmen made some good hits, which inspired the spectators with enthusiasm. The Australian

captain made an off-drive to the ring off Briggs. Then he drove the ball hard to Mr Jackson, who made two attempts to catch it, but failed. Quickly gathering up the ball he returned it, and Mr Blackham, following up his hit, could not regain his ground before M'Gregor, who met the ball, ran him out. The innings, which lasted an hour and three-quarters, had yielded 91.

The Australians, in the overwhelming minority of 392, began their second innings with Mr Bruce (the not-out of the previous innings) and Mr Bannerman at 4.25. Mold when on at Lockwood's end (presumably to give the latter a rest). Each batsman made boundary hits – Mr Bannerman made two cuts, while his companion sent the ball to leg. The batting was still bright, and Mr Bruce effected a splendid cut to the rung from Mold. This batsman then made a bad stroke and should have been caught at extra-slip by Ward. It was rather a bad miss, especially as Mr Bruce is one of the best batsmen on the side. He then cut Briggs for four, and Mr Bannerman made an equally good hit with the same result. At 46, Lockwood went on for Mold, and there was a loud cheer as 50 was telegraphed as the result of half an hour's capital cricket. Mold was put on at the top end at 54, and with his first ball got Mr Bruce caught at slip.

Mr Giffen came on at 5 o'clock, and a sharp second run from a cut nearly cost Mr Bannerman his wicket, Gunn returning the ball well. An appeal by Mr M'Gregor for stumping against Mr Giffen was given in favour of the batsman, who at once drove Lockwood to the on for four. The figures went steadily up to 82, and Mr Jackson went on for Lockwood. His bowling was rather short and runs came well, although a hit by Mr Giffen for three went close to Dr Grace's left hand in the slips. A single, through misfielding by Shrewsbury, sent up the 100 at a quarter to 6 and called forth enthusiastic cheers. Briggs was now put on again for Mold. Runs came steadily. Mr Giffen, when he had made 33, gave Mr Read a chance at mid-off which the latter did not accept. The batsman cut the next ball for four. Lockwood displaced Mr Jackson at 116, and in his first over Mr Bannerman reached his 50. Mr Read in some measure compensated for allowing Mr Giffen to escape by finely catching Mr Bannerman, running backwards from mid-on to get to a high ball. Mr Bannerman had been in an hour and three-quarters for 55, and his hits comprised nine fours, four threes, two twos &c; the second wicket had put on 72 runs.

Mr Trott assisted Mr Giffen, and some free hitting was witnessed in the last 20 minutes, during which 32 runs were made. The Australians at the finish wanted 234 to avert the innings defeat and had eight wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 17 August, page 4)

England has defeated the Australians in a decisive manner. The latter, however, again showed their capacity for playing a losing game with pluck and determination. Their feeble resistance to the home attack in the first innings on Tuesday was most dispiriting, but these early failures were forgotten in the brilliancy of their batting in the second.

It was not to be expected that the large attendance of Monday and Tuesday would be repeated yesterday. Yet the 2,000 or more people who visited the Oval had the good fortune to witness some of the best hitting of the match. So well were the Australians doing at one time that it seemed more than probable that England would have to go in again, 300 were scored when only half the wickets were down. At this stage Mr Trott was still in and Mr Lyons was showing some of his strong hitting powers, 20 coming in fine drives. Every one could have wished that Mr Trott's excellent innings should have been rewarded by his completion of the century, but a catch at mid-on by Mr Read prevented this when he was within eight of the number. Mr Graham, too, played in a vigorous

manner. The hope that the Australians would save the innings defeat vanished when a marvellous catch at mid-off dismissed Mr Lyons, as the last three batsmen only added nine between them. The victory of England was well merited; but the second innings of the Australians is a reminder that they have the sturdy quality of the Anglo-Saxon of never knowing when they are beaten.

The Australians had followed on overnight and scored 158 for two wickets. Mr Giffen (49) and Mr Trott (21) began batting again at 11.35. Briggs bowled from the western end. The other bowler was Lockwood, whom Mr Giffen cut; the ball was well fielded by Gunn at third man, who sharply returned, but Mr M'Gregor failed to take it and the ball went to the boundary as an overthrow. Then came a very clean cut for four by Mr Trott; but Lockwood in his second over clean bowled Mr Giffen. He had played a good innings save the chance given to mid-off when he had made 38; it lasted an hour and 40 minutes and comprised a five, five fours, four threes and three twos. Three for 166.

Mr Gregory then went in, and Mr Trott played Briggs well away to the leg boundary. Directly afterwards he made a bad stroke, the ball dropping just between point and cover; in the same over there was a lucky three by Mr Gregory, who was afterwards quite beaten by a ball that went for four byes. This escape did not profit him much, as he was cleverly caught at point by Shrewsbury, who took the ball low down and fell over in making the catch. Four for 189.

Lockwood was now bowling very well, while Briggs, after puzzling Mr Trott, was drive by that batsman for four. Then followed a good pull by Mr Graham from Lockwood to the ring, which, at ten minutes past 12, brought up the score to 200, when the innings had lasted two hours and a half. Mr Graham next drove Lockwood for four. Extras had been somewhat plentiful, and a ball from Briggs that almost bowled Mr Graham produced four more byes. Mr Trott cut Briggs to the spectators. Afterwards Lockwood bowled one remarkable over in which he thrice made the ball break back so much that Mr Graham's wicket escaped only by a shave each time. Mr Trott now appeared to be more at home with Briggs, whom he cut for four and in the same over he got two by a drive, the ball being splendidly fielded by Gunn. Lockwood continued to bowl very fast and the wicket was a little dusty. More extras came, and so far 20 had been made during the morning.

Mr Jackson came on for Briggs at 232, but in his first over Mr Trott cut the ball for three, and so completed his 50 in an hour and ten minutes. Mold relieved Lockwood at 235. Still a brisk rate of run-getting was maintained. A couple of fine fours by Mr Trott caused 92 to be recorded as the result of an hour's play. The rapidity of the scoring necessitated a further change in the bowling, and Briggs was put on for Mr Jackson. This did not affect Mr Trott, who made six in the over, while Mr Graham, who had been very quiet, pulled a ball from Mold round to the leg boundary; he then drove successive balls to the on for four and finished with a single, the over yielding 13 runs. Lockwood was put on again at 281, and when the partnership had lasted less than an hour 100 had been added. A very fine drive from the top wicket was made by Mr Trott, the ball pitching just in front of the stand; but he then gave a hard return chance to Briggs, which was missed. In this bowler's next over Mr Graham was bowled. Half the wickets were now down for 295, no fewer than 106 having been added since the fall of the fourth, in an hour and five minutes.

Mr Lyons came in, and from the first ball he played should have been caught at mid-off by Mr Jackson in the same over from Briggs. An on drive for three by Mr Lyons brought the score to 300 at a quarter past 1, after three hours and 40 minutes' play. Mr Trott next made in succession a cut and a drive for four each, but then, off Lockwood's bowling, he was caught at mid-on. He had been batting for a couple of hours, and in his 92 were 17 fours, four threes and two twos.

Mr Trumble was the next in, and Mr Lyons treated the spectators to some of his fine hitting, although it did not last long. From the fourth and fifth balls of an over from Briggs he made two drives to the boundary. From Lockwood's next Mr Trumble obtained three. Thus Mr Lyons got the bowling again, and his first ball he sent to the on for four, the second he drove straight to the roof of the pavilion, the ball bounding over, and the third he forced to the on, the ball glancing off the zinc covering and falling in front of the players' old dressing room. From five successive balls received by him Mr Lyons thus scored 20 runs. The next, however, proved fatal to him, as from a hard drive he was splendidly caught at mid-off by Dr Grace, who made the catch low down on his left side. In this remarkable over of Lockwood's there were 15 runs and a wicket. Seven for 340.

The end soon came, as Briggs with successive balls bowled Mr Trumble and Mr Turner for an addition of two, while the catching of Mr M'Leod at cover-point closed the innings for 349 at 1.45, after four and a quarter hours' batting. During the morning 191 had been obtained. Thus England won by an innings and 43 runs.

14 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SOMERSET

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4029.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 August, page 9)

The wicket at the College-ground, Cheltenham, yesterday, was scarcely of its usual excellence and the bowlers were helped considerably throughout the day. Glorious weather prevailed, but the company did not reach the numbers of some other years at Cheltenham. Another figure that seemed wanting to make the opening stage of the festival complete was the presence of Dr W G Grace, who was captaining England at the Oval. Gloucestershire again included his eldest son and young Mr Townsend.

Somerset, who had the choice of first innings, were batting two hours and 35 minutes for 197. This was a far more substantial total than was promised by the early incidents of the match, for the sixth Somerset wicket went at 74. But Mr Roe came to the rescue of the side and, aided by the efforts of Messrs Wood and Newton, put a far better complexion on affairs for the visitors. He went in at the dismissal of the fourth batsman at 59 and was ninth to leave at 186, taking about two hours to make his 75 and hitting nine fours, a three and eight twos. Mr Woods helped him to put on 44.

Gloucestershire fared badly and, in spite of some good batting by Messrs Ferris and De Winton, half the side were out before the drawing of stumps for 88.

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

There was a variety of good batting on the Cheltenham College ground yesterday, when Somerset in the second stage of the match secured a position that promises victory. Overnight Gloucestershire, going in against 197, had lost five men for 88; but yesterday while Messrs De Winton and Page, the not-outs, remained together things assumed a brighter aspect.

However, after 160 had gone up with only six men out, the home batting was soon over. The partnership of Messrs De Winton and Page for the sixth wicket yielded 72 runs in an hour and a half. Mr De Winton's 80 was characterized by sound defence; he was in rather less than three hours and contributed five fours, five threes and 12 twos.

Somerset, who held an advantage of 31, occupied the rest of the cricketing hours with their second innings, which was productive of rapid scoring. But the visitors experienced many kindnesses from the home fieldsmen during the compilation of their 270 in three and a quarter hours, as something like six catches were dropped. Mr L C H Palaret, the Oxford captain, was let off by Mr Ferris with his figures at two, and he gave a couple of other chances about midway in his innings of 72. Apart from these blemishes, his game was brilliant. He hit eight fours, two threes and seven twos. Various other batsmen did pretty well, but the innings was finished in a summary manner by young Mr Townsend, who performed the "hat trick," getting Mr Newton, Nichols and Tyler stumped from the last three balls of the innings. To-day Gloucestershire are left with 302 to make to win.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 17 August, page 4)

With a fiery wicket the task set the home side of making 302 for victory proved quite beyond their

powers, and yesterday the first match of the Cheltenham week ended disastrously for Gloucestershire. Under the circumstances the score of 174 in the last innings was by no means an indifferent performance, especially after the effective way in which Mr Woods and Tyler bowled at the outset.

Half the side went for 47, but the other five wickets yielded 127 runs. The credit for this stout fight at the finish belonged considerably to Mr H V Page, whose 40 is the best piece of batting he has done for his county in some years. He was in an hour and a quarter, and hit four fours, two threes and five twos. He went in fifth wicket down and was seventh to leave. The best partnerships were 35 (Dr E M Grace and Mr Page) and 45 (Mr Brain and Mr Page). After three hours Gloucestershire were out for 174, and victory rested with Somerset by 127 runs. Tyler took ten wickets in the double innings for 110 runs.

14 August: YORKSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4030.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 August, page 9)

Park-avenue ground, Bradford, was visited yesterday by some 10,000 people to witness the first stage of the return game between Yorkshire and Middlesex. The interest in the fixture was of more than usual keenness because of the fight for the county championship, in which Yorkshire at present hold a lead of one point from Lancashire and three from Middlesex.

Unfortunately, England v Australia interfered with the thorough representation of the counties. Especially was Middlesex handicapped, for they could ill spare their famous wicket-keeper, Mr M'Gregor, and the great batsman, Mr Stoddart; while Yorkshire were deprived of the Cambridge captain, Mr F S Jackson.

The day's cricket was full of interest. Winning the toss and going in when the turf had not recovered from a heavy dew, Yorkshire began badly; and the fall of their first four wickets was recorded for 42 runs. From the point, however, the affairs of the home county underwent steady improvement. Things first turned with the defence in the hands of Tunnicliffe and Peel, whose fifth partnership yielded 84 runs in an hour and three-quarters, while after the seventh man had gone at 143 Wainwright, backed up by the play of Ulyett, Hirst and Hunter, assisted most materially in adding the 91 runs which the last three wickets produced. One of the brightest stands was that by Wainwright and Hirst, who in 40 minutes obtained 57 runs. Tunnicliffe took two hours and ten minutes to make his 55 (eight fours, a three, four twos &c), while Wainwright hit five fours, four threes and five twos in his stay of an hour and three-quarters. It will be noticed that Burton reappears for Middlesex, whose wicket-keeping was in the hands of Mr L R Thomas, of the South Hampstead Club.

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

Yesterday's play at Park Avenue, Bradford, was closely watched by another big company, who were of course particularly pleased by the excellent position in which Yorkshire at the finish found themselves. The advantage, however, was not always with the home side.

Middlesex, who had begun their innings overnight, played steadily during the two hours and 20 minutes' cricket before luncheon and ran their score to 114 for three wickets. Some idea of the care with which the visitors batted may be gathered from the fact that Mr Lucas took 90 minutes to make 29 and Mr Foley was in half an hour for seven. Subsequent to the luncheon interval there was vigorous play by Messrs Scott and O'Brien, but after these batsmen had put on 58 a change came over the game. It was caused by the bowling of Peel, who met with so much success when he went on at 139 the five of the last six wickets fell to him for 18 runs. Mr Scott was in two hours for 56 (seven fours, three fives, four threes and singles). Thus Yorkshire were left in possession of a lead of 43.

In the last hour and a half of the day the home side fared well. Lord Hawke played freely and was strongly supported by Brown and Mr Sellers, the result being that at the drawing of stumps Yorkshire were 134 runs on with nine wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 17 August, page 4)

Yorkshire gained a brilliant victory over Middlesex at the Park-avenue Ground, Bradford, yesterday, and the result aroused great enthusiasm among the 5,000 spectators. The home side had finished up in a pretty good position on Tuesday night, for, with nine wickets in hand, they were 134 runs ahead.

Mr Sellers and Brown, who had fared so well, were separated when the second partnership had produced 90 runs in a hour and a quarter. The amateur played excellently for his 54, made in an hour and three-quarters by five fours, a three and nine twos, while Brown's 51 was also the result of good cricket; he hit eight fours, a three and three twos. Subsequently Hearne bowled finely and Rawlin did capital work at the other end. Indeed, after the second wicket had fallen at 118 there was something of a collapse and the last eight went for an addition of 66. Hearne had taken ten wickets in the double innings.

With the pitch helping the bowlers and 228 runs wanted to win, Middlesex had not a very hopeful task before them. Three hours and a half still remained, so that little doubt existed as to the game being played out. Middlesex lost three men for 25 runs. After a stand by Mr Webbe and Mr Scott the innings was quickly finished. Hirst went on at 53 and took four of the last six wickets for 13 runs. Mr Webbe and Mr Scott alone reached double figures. The latter was in an hour and 40 minutes. During the day 19 wickets fell for 175 runs, and this record was certainly very meagre for a ground usually so favourable for batsmen as Bradford. From the subjoined figures it will be seen that Yorkshire won by 145 runs.

14 August: WARWICKSHIRE v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128150.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 15 August, page 9)

With the prominent match at the head-quarters of the Surrey Club engrossing the attention of the cricketing public, it seems strange for the county to have a strong eleven playing elsewhere. Yet such was the case, for a team, composed solely of professionals, started their match against Warwickshire yesterday at Birmingham.

The visitors went in first, and at 15 Hayward played on. Abel and Henderson were then partners. In spite of bowling changes they were not separated until 121 was reached, when the former was finely caught at mid-off. His 65 had taken him two hours and ten minutes to obtain. It included a five, three fours, three threes, 12 twos &c. Henderson and Street advanced the total to 192, when the former was bowled; he had been batting two hours and 25 minutes for six fours, three threes, four twos and singles. Street, who gave a chance when he had made 53, was caught in the long-field, having secured a six, 11 fours, two threes, six twos &c. Baldwin and Wood both batted well . . .

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

The free hitting of Surrey on the Edgbaston Ground enabled them to score an easy victory over Warwickshire yesterday. On Monday they were batting all day and had lost eight wickets for 331. The two remaining batsmen added 62, Wood being not out 82. Wood was in for two hours and a half and among his hits were five fours, four threes, six twos &c.

Warwickshire were all out for 111 in their first venture, while in the follow-on they fared even worse. This, too, in spite of a fairly good start, as they made 53 for four wickets. The other six only added 15 runs; and Smith, the left-handed bowler, who went on at 59, took the last five wickets for a run apiece. From the full score it will be seen that Surrey won by an innings and 214 runs.

Thursday 17 August, page 4: THE COUNTIES

The victory of Yorkshire yesterday at Bradford against Middlesex strengthens their first position amongst the counties. They have a lead of two points over Lancashire, but they have played one more match than that county. Yorkshire's remaining two fixtures are with Kent at Sheffield and with Sussex at Brighton next week. Lancashire meet Sussex at Brighton to-day, Middlesex at Lord's on Monday and Notts at Manchester on the 28th inst. Present positions: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	14	10	3	1	7
Lancashire	13	8	3	2	5
Middlesex	13	7	5	1	2
Kent	13	5	3	5	2
Nottinghamshire	13	4	5	4	-1
Surrey	14	6	7	1	-1
Sussex	13	4	5	4	-1
Somerset	13	2	7	4	-5
Gloucestershire	14	2	10	2	-8

In this table drawn games are not reckoned, while the losses are deducted from the wins.

17 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4031.html)

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

The 5,000 people who gathered in the Cheltenham College grounds yesterday saw plenty of interesting play, although doubtless they would have been better pleased had the county come out of the ordeal of their first day against the Australians with much less promise of a follow on. But the pitch had something to do with the cheap dismissal of Gloucestershire's six batsmen towards the close. It had been a little fiery in the Somerset match, and yesterday the turf proved consistent and helped the bowlers all day, more especially after luncheon.

The Australians, who are giving Mr Lyons a rest, won the toss and made the most of their opportunities, for, although no one did anything remarkable in the batting, the result of their three hours' innings was the very good score of 207. The best partnerships were – 49 (Messrs Trumble and Turner), 40 (Messrs Bruce and Bannerman) and 40 (Messrs Trott and Bannerman). Mr Bruce batted brilliantly at the start and seemed well set when he was run out; and Mr Bannerman scored his 33 in 70 minutes, being third to leave at 80. It was after the seventh wicket had fallen at 134 that Messrs Trumble and Turner made their stand. The former was credited with the largest figures of the day; he put together his 47 in an hour and a quarter, hitting five fours and eight twos. Young Mr Townsend had bowled well, taking five wickets for 70 runs.

In spite of capital defence by Dr W G Grace, five of the home wickets fell for 37 runs, after which Dr E M Grace's vigorous play helped to improve matters. Gloucestershire, with four wickets in hand, want 52 to avert the follow on.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 August, page 8)

This year's Cheltenham Week has been very disastrous for Gloucestershire, who yesterday suffered a decisive defeat from the Australians. Somerset had beaten the home county on Wednesday. Yesterday's result was to some extent indicated by the play on Thursday, for, with the wicket fiery, the prospect of good scores against the skilled attack of the Australians was not very promising.

Gloucestershire, who, going in against a score of 207, had lost six batsmen for 76, completed their innings in 50 minutes for an addition of 33, the end being marked by the good stand made by Dr E M Grace, who with Mr Page raised the score to 98. But then Mr George Giffen took the last four wickets in five overs.

In their second spell of batting the best point was the play of Painter and Mr Rice, who put on 71 in three-quarters of an hour for the third wicket. Painter hit five fours, four threes and five twos. Dr Grace's son played fairly well; but ultimately the Australians won by eight wickets.

17 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v MIDDLESEX

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4032.html)

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

With Messrs Stoddart and M'Gregor freed from their duties for England at the Oval, Middlesex were able to strengthen their team which had lost to Yorkshire, while yesterday at Trent-bridge they also included in their team Mr H B Hayman, of the Hampstead Club. Notts left out Shacklock for Silas Hardy, the young Kimberley professional, and Mr Dixon was again able to play for them. The wicket was scarcely up to the standard of those usually found at Trent-bridge, and its fiery nature frequently upset the judgment of the batsmen.

Middlesex went in first and quickly lost Messrs Stoddart and Foley; but Mr A J Webbe and Mr O'Brien made a stand and added 50, while Messrs M'Gregor and Lucas did so well as to put on 52 for the seventh partnership. The best scores were the 50 of the Middlesex captain and the 51 of Mr M'Gregor. Neither batsman gave a chance. Mr Webbe made his 50 in 90 minutes (six fours, four threes and two twos) and Mr M'Gregor his 51 in 65 minutes (seven fours and five twos). Middlesex were in altogether three and a quarter hours for 184. Mee's bowling figures came out wonderfully well.

Notts in two hours lost Shrewsbury, Gunn, Flowers and Barnes, and the total at the close was 108 for four wickets. Mr Dixon after the first few overs played fine cricket.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 August, page 8)

Variety and excellence were equally conspicuous in the cricket at Trent Bridge yesterday, the second day of the match, and the way in which fortune fluctuated kept the spectators very attentive throughout.

Nottinghamshire, who had lost four wickets overnight for 108, or 78 in arrear of the Middlesex figures, went to 251 before they were all dismissed. Mr Dixon, who was helped by Attewell in adding 110 for the seventh wicket, increased his overnight score of 66 to 133 as the result of nearly four hours' play. This was his third 100 in consecutive matches at Trent Bridge. Despite two or three chances it was a brilliant innings, and included 21 fours, four threes and seven twos. Attewell hit four fours, five threes and five twos. Hearne's analysis came out very well.

Middlesex, who were 67 behind, lost four men for 58, at which stage Rawlin and Mr Ford got together and added 126. Mr Ford made a five, three fours, six threes and nine twos in his brilliant 86. This stand quite altered matters, and at the finish Middlesex were 117 on with five wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Monday 21 August, page 5)

The brilliant victory of Middlesex at Trent-bridge on Saturday was the outcome of a remarkable game, in which the visitors on more than one occasion were engaged in an uphill fight. Indeed, the variety of phases through which the match passed during the first two days was such as to keep the interest always keen.

With the wicket rather fiery 67 was a very useful lead for Notts to secure at the end of the first innings, and when four of their opponents had gone in the second innings for 58 the course seemed especially fair for the home team. But before the close on Friday night a fine stand by Rawlin and Mr Ford had turned the game rather in favour of Middlesex, whose position on Saturday morning was 117 ahead, with five wickets to fall.

Rawlin was soon caught out by Mr Dixon at mid-off. His 42 was the result of sound defence, extending over two and a quarter hours. Then came another brilliant innings by Mr M'Gregor, whose skill had so much contributed to the respectable score in his side's first innings. On this occasion he made 52 without a mistake in an hour and a quarter, going in fifth wicket down at 184 and being eighth out at 262, well caught by Mr Dixon running in the long-field. His chief figures were six fours, two threes and six twos, and his aggregate for the match was 103. Mr Henery's vigorous play and some good strokes by Mr Hayman further strengthened the visitors' position, and the ultimate score was 319. During the morning the last five Middlesex wickets had put on in two hours 135 runs. Attewell had bowled well, but Mee was not so successful as in the first innings.

Although the wicket had worn very much and promised to help the bowlers, the general opinion seemed to be that Notts would save the game. They began the last innings after luncheon, when there remained three hours and three-quarters to play, and 253 runs were required to win. No one was prepared for the startling rapidity with which the famous Notts side were beaten by the skill of J T Hearne, who did one of the best pieces of work with the ball recorded among his numerous successes this season. Shrewsbury stayed a long while and played extremely well for his 31; but the other batsmen did little, and shortly after 5 o'clock the innings was finished for 92. Mr Stoddart, going on instead of Rawlin, helped in the dismissal of the last few men. Hearne's bowling was one of the features of the match, and his eight for 55 on Saturday brought his full record to 15 wickets for 154 runs. The Middlesex fielding was excellent, and Mr Stoddart made various good catches at mid-off. Middlesex won by 160 runs.

It is worth recalling that they beat Notts at Lord's by 57 runs last June, this being the occasion when Mr Stoddart made 195 and 124 and when Middlesex scored over 300 in each innings against Nottinghamshire's 301 and 273. Notts have lost all four matches with the two metropolitan counties this season. Beyond a sharp shower, which delayed the game for ten minutes, the weather was fine.

17 August: SOMERSET v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4033.html)

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

Much interest was felt in the match which began yesterday at Taunton, by reason of the fact that at the first meeting of these counties at the Oval Somerset secured their first win. In the present instance the home side were without the services of their captain, Mr H T Hewett, who had a slight sunstroke while at Cheltenham. Mr Spurway completed the eleven.

Surrey brought down a fine team and, having won the toss, made a good score, which was in some measure due to the bad fielding of Somerset. This caused some astonishment, as fielding used to be one of the best points off Somerset cricket. Surrey did not begin well, and although Hayward played excellently for his 25, three men were out for 45. Street did not profit much by a let off; but Somerset had a far different experience for letting Mr W W Read twice escape soon after he reached double figures. In 70 minutes Mr Read and Henderson put on 78 runs for the fifth wicket, while Henderson and Brockwell added 57 more. Mr Read scored his 63 in an hour and a half, hitting ten fours, a three and five twos. Henderson was a couple of hours making his 49; but Brockwell played with his characteristic vigour and, appreciating various mistakes in the field, scored nine fours in his 52.

Surrey were all out by 5 o'clock for 251. Somerset went in and lost their two best batsmen for 35 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 August, page 8)

Although the wicket in some degree helped the bowlers, the spectators at Taunton yesterday must have been disappointed with Somerset's feeble fight against Surrey, who in the end triumphed by eight wickets, and thus avenged their defeat by Somerset early in July at the Oval. The position of Thursday night was, of course, favourable to the visitors, who, having made 251, had got out the two best batsmen of Somerset for 35.

In a couple of hours the remaining eight wickets yielded 105. This was a number far in excess of what at one time seemed probable, for Richardson's bowling was so deadly that six men were dismissed for 78. Then came a stand of 48 by Messrs Woods and Hill, and the former, profiting by an early escape, hit six fours in his 38.

Following on, Somerset found Brockwell and Richardson too difficult for them; but after seven men had gone for 69 Mr Woods, who had made three drives out of the ground, and Mr Hill once more raised the total to a respectable number. Finally Surrey won by eight wickets.

17 August: SUSSEX v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4034.html)

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

Lancashire's close fight with Yorkshire for chief honours among the counties invests their matches with something more than the average amount of interest. And yesterday at the Hove, Brighton, they gave further evidence of the fine skill possessed by them. Their bowlers got Sussex out on a fast and true wicket for a comparatively small score, and then their batsmen made full use of their opportunities, and already with only three wickets down the visitors possess a lead of between 40 and 50 runs.

Mr A G Steel does not often grace important cricket with his presence, but yesterday found him once more in the Lancashire ranks. Bean stood out of the Sussex team because of an injured hand.

The only really good point in the home batting was Mr Wilson's 49. No one else reached 20 and in two hours and three-quarters the whole side was out for 151 – a meagre total for such a good batting team on the famous Brighton wicket. But the Lancastrians bowled and fielded well and Mr Kemble was especially dextrous in wicket-keeping.

In the last two hours and a half of the day Lancashire made 194 for the loss of only three wickets. The chief merit of this performance belonged to Ward and Sugg, who added 117 in an hour and a quarter for the second partnership. Sugg hit eight fours, a three and three fours, while Ward, whose innings was faultless, remained not out at the drawing of stumps. Brilliant weather prevailed and there was a large attendance.

Yesterday at Brighton Mr W L Murdoch and Sugg each reached the 1,000 runs aggregate in first-class cricket this season.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 19 August, page 8)

Lancashire gained a great victory over Sussex at Brighton yesterday, a result thoroughly merited by their splendid batting, bowling and fielding. On Thursday evening they had secured an advantageous position, as with seven wickets in hand they were already 43 runs ahead. But even this did not promise such a decisive win as they obtained.

Resuming their innings at 20 minutes to 12, they were not disposed of until 3.15, when the total stood at 385. The batting was characterized by the fine, all-round cricket of Albert Ward, whose 126 was the outcome of three and a half hours' play. His play was almost faultless, and his chief hits were 17 fours, three threes and two twos. Mr Crosfield hit nine fours in the course of a capital innings.

Sussex were out a second time for 121. Mold found a spot or two to pitch on, and he clean bowled eight wickets after the first partnership had yielded 42 runs. It was a wonderful piece of work by the Lancashire fast bowler. Sussex were beaten by an innings and 113 runs.

18 August: MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB v WORCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128834.html)

Day 1 (report from Saturday 19 August, page 8)

Some excellent cricket was witnessed in this match at Lord's yesterday. The county had considerably the better of the day's play, this, too, in spite of the capital bowling by Pougher, who took seven wickets for 68 runs. The M.C.C. had begun their second innings in a minority of 82 when stumps were drawn.

Day 2 (report from Monday 21 August, page 5)

Although 82 behind on the first innings in this match, the Marylebone team fared so well in the second day's play at Lord's on Saturday that they beat the county by 64 runs. Chatterton, Geeson and Storer all did remarkably well in batting, and afterwards Pougher and Geeson were very successful in the attack. Indeed, the two last-named each secured ten wickets in the match.

Saturday 19 August, page 8: THE COUNTIES

The success of Lancashire at Brighton yesterday again brings them within a point of Yorkshire, who are at the head of the counties. Each side has two more fixtures . . . [Table follows, soon out of date.]

Monday 21 August, page 5: THE COUNTIES

The success of Middlesex at Nottingham on Saturday again places them third among the counties, the positions up to the present being as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	14	10	3	1	7
Lancashire	14	9	3	2	6
Middlesex	14	8	5	1	3
Kent	13	5	3	5	2
Surrey	15	7	7	1	0
Nottinghamshire	14	4	6	4	-2
Sussex	14	4	6	4	-2
Somerset	14	2	8	4	-6
Gloucestershire	14	2	10	2	-8

In this table drawn games are not reckoned, while the losses are deducted from the wins.

Monday 21 August, page 5: George Lohmann, the Surrey cricketer, left Southampton on Saturday in the Mexican for the Cape. He will make a very considerable stay in South Africa in the hope of thoroughly recovering his health.

21 August: GLOUCESTERSHIRE v SURREY

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4035.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 August, page 9)

Two prominent figures were absent from this match, which opened yesterday on the Clifton College Ground – Dr W G Grace from Gloucestershire and Lockwood from Surrey, both suffering from a strain.

It proved a day for the bowlers, of whom Richardson for the visitors and young Mr Townsend for Gloucestershire secured analyses of equal merit – viz., six wickets for 56 runs. Two innings were completed and the result was a slight advantage for Surrey. The cause of the failure of the batsmen was the wetness of the turf due to rain through the night. There were no great features in the batting, the highest score being 25.

Gloucestershire, who went in first, made 105 in two and a half hours, while Surrey took two and a quarter hours to put together 131. The spectators seemed well pleased with the bowling of Mr Townsend, who kept a good length and got considerable work on the ball.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 August, page 3)

There was a spirited day's play in this match at the Clifton College Ground, yesterday, on a much improved wicket. Gloucestershire entered on their second innings yesterday morning with a deficiency of 26.

After a bad start the home side steadily improved. Painter, profiting by an escape, made 43 out of 63 added for the third wicket, while Ferris and Dr E M Grace put on 51 in an hour and a half. However, seven men were out for 134; afterwards Mr Page met with more success, and in his 53, scored out of the last 87 in an hour and a quarter, were nine fours, two threes and two twos. Richardson had again bowled with much effect.

Surrey wanted 191 to win and, although Mr Shuter showed brilliant form, four of the team were dismissed for 83.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 24 August, page 9)

Surrey have finished their season disastrously, and yesterday the Gloucestershire eleven gained a well-deserved success over them. The western county had not beaten Surrey for eight years, the last occasion being in 1885, when they were twice victorious.

On Tuesday the visitors, at Clifton, went in to make 191 to win, and at the drawing of stumps 83 of these had been obtained at the cost of four wickets; thus 108 were still necessary. Maurice Read was bowled in the second over; but the next partnership, that between Brockwell and Henderson, greatly brightened Surrey's hopes. Both batsmen were then dismissed, caught at wicket, at 131. Although Wood made various good strokes, the innings was over for an addition of 26, and Gloucestershire won by 33 runs.

Roberts bowled well, and Mr Townsend, although a little expensive, got three wickets. Surrey's record in county cricket is as follows: - Seven wins, eight losses, one drawn game.

21 August: MIDDLESEX v LANCASHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4036.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 August, page 9)

The victorious and brilliant career which Lancashire has so long pursued seems likely to be checked in the match with Middlesex, which began at Lord's yesterday on a good, fast wicket, in splendid weather and before five or six thousand people. Each county had one good cricketer absent. Business detaining Mr O'Brien in Dublin, Mr Webbe gave another trial to Mr Hayman, who played very well at Nottingham last week. Lancashire were without the aid of F Sugg, who is suffering from lameness.

Middlesex were fortunate in winning the toss, for they kept possession of the wicket from 12 o'clock until half-past 5, which meant four and a half hours' actual play. They did not begin in a way that heralded so large a score as was ultimately reached. A splendid ball from Mold bowled Mr Stoddart, Mr Scott left immediately and the captain was well caught at wicket after he had made one fine four in front of cover-point, and had scored altogether 17. Thus Middlesex lost their first three men for 33.

Then came signs of improvement in the affairs of the batting side. Mr Foley, although at first very uncomfortable in playing Mold, settled down and showed capital defence, and with Rawlin added 51 in 35 minutes. With four wickets down for 84 Mr Ford came in and proved Lancashire's most troublesome opponent. In the hour and three-quarters of his stay 147 were put on, and of this number he made 81 without giving a chance; he played the fast bowling particularly well, hitting five fours, three threes and 12 twos. Rawlin batted excellently and helped Mr Ford to take the score from 84 to 153 in 45 minutes, while the seventh wicket (Messrs Ford and Lucas) yielded 54 runs.

Messrs Lucas and Hayman obtained 50 in 50 minutes for the eighth partnership, while Hearne stayed just long enough to send the figures beyond the third hundred. Mr A G Steel, going on for a third time, got the last two wickets very quickly. The four and a half hours' play produced 304 runs. Lancashire fielded well and very few mistakes were made.

In a quarter of an hour the visitors lost two good batsmen for 14 runs, so that they have started badly against the big Middlesex total.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 August, page 3)

Lancashire fought an uphill game throughout yesterday at Lord's and, though they were in a bad position at the close, there was no lack of good batting from at least a couple of men – Albert Ward and Mr M'Laren. On Monday Middlesex had scored 304 and Lancashire had lost two men for 14.

Yesterday morning in the course of an hour and ten minutes three more wickets fell for an addition of 57 runs. Hearne had bowled well, and when Briggs seemed likely to stay Mr Stoddart went on and secured two wickets in one over. Tinsley and A Ward batted excellently and in an hour the sixth partnership obtained 57. Then a fine ball from Hearne got out A Ward, and in one over Mr Ford sent back Baker and Mr Kemble. All three wickets fell at 128. Albert Ward was in two hours and 25 minutes, and in his 51, made without a chance, were six fours, two threes and two twos. Tinsley was credited with several good hits in his 35; but he, too, fell to Mr Ford. Lancashire were

all out for 152 after two and three-quarters hour's batting. J T Hearne had a capital analysis. Lancashire had scored exactly half the runs made by Middlesex, and thus they followed on with arrears of 152.

They started well. Mr M'Laren and A Ward obtained 53 in 43 minutes, and then the professional was run out; he had played forward and gone over his crease when Mr M'Gregor gathered the ball and cleverly ran the batsman out. Another fine stand was made by Mr M'Laren and F Ward, the latter exercising the greatest care while his companion forced the game. Seventy-six were put on, and then Mr M'Laren, who had given an easy chance to Mr Hayman at cover-point at 75, was brilliantly caught at mid-on by Mr Webbe, who jumped up and took the ball with his right hand. Mr M'Laren's 82, the highest score in the match, was a splendid innings, extending over an hour and 35 minutes, and including 12 fours, four threes and five twos.

Then four wickets were lost for 35 runs. Finally the visitors were left with 12 runs ahead and six of their best batsmen out. There were about 5,000 spectators.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 24 August, page 9)

The rain lasted long enough yesterday to threaten to rob Middlesex of their prospects of winning this match at Lord's. At the close of the second day Lancashire were only 12 runs ahead with four wickets in hand. As the game yesterday could not be resumed until 4.35 there was barely an hour and a half left for the match, and with the turf wet and heavy, it seemed not unlikely that the visitors might stay in sufficiently long to leave Middlesex no time to win.

But Hearne bowled excellently and sent down six overs and three balls (four maidens) for four runs and four wickets. Mr Ford made a couple of good catches at slip, while Mr Stoddart, at mid-off, secured Baker and Mr M'Gregor caught Mold. The last four wickets had gone in 37 minutes for 16 runs; the eighth, ninth and tenth all went at the same total. Hearne's full analysis came out remarkably well, viz., seven for 40 runs, while his record for the match was 12 for 107. At the end of last week at Trent Bridge he took 15 wickets for 154, so that his bowling in six days' cricket gives him the fine return of 27 wickets for 261 runs.

Middlesex wanted 29 to win with 32 minutes to play. Messrs Stoddart and Ford began; but with only a single scored the former, making a capital stroke from a dangerous ball that got up close to his face, was caught at long leg. Messrs Ford and M'Gregor did their best to force the game, but both were taken at long slip. Mr Webbe, however, hit out, and within seven minutes of the time for drawing stumps – 6 o'clock – made the single which won the match for Middlesex by seven wickets.

21 August: SECOND CLASS COUNTIES v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4037.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 August, page 9)

On the Edgbaston ground at Birmingham, yesterday, the Australians began a match with a team representative of the second-class counties. The latter were powerful, but the absence of Mead, of Essex, through indisposition, was regretted.

Mr Bainbridge, who won the toss, took first innings with Quaife, and before the wicket became treacherous 59 were scored. However, the sun on the pitch soon influenced the bowling and five batsmen were out for 86. Quaife, who made 47, was fourth to leave, having shown capital form. Mr Giffen bowled well, taking seven wickets for 53.

The Australians began badly, losing three men for seven runs; but the game subsequently improved for them, and at the drawing of stumps they were 58 behind with four wickets to fall. The weather, though boisterous, was bright and there were several thousand spectators.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 August, page 6)

Bad weather lessened the hours of cricket at Edgbaston, Birmingham, yesterday; but in spite of the rain. Which prevented any play until after 3 o'clock, the game proved interesting and was keenly followed by a couple of thousand people.

The Australians, who had lost six wickets for 89 runs, completed their innings in 50 minutes for the addition of 54. Mr Bruce played well for his 51, which were made in an hour and a quarter, and was unfortunate in being run out, since he slipped down on the soft turf. His chief hits were seven fours, two threes and four twos. There was the slight difference of four runs between the innings.

The counties started well in their second innings. Quaife again showed good form; but after 50 had appeared with only one wicket down, the batsmen left rather rapidly, and when rain stopped the game the home side were 57 ahead with five wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 24 August, page 9)

In fine weather and before a couple of thousand spectators this match was brought to a finish yesterday on the Warwickshire County Ground, at Edgbaston, Birmingham. The result was a win for the Australians after a remarkably interesting game, and the issue was reached only half an hour before the time fixed for drawing stumps. The state of affairs on Tuesday night gained promise of a good third day, and it was surprising that the attendance was not larger. The pitch had much recovered from the rain.

The home innings, in which five wickets were down for 93, was completed in an hour and 20 minutes for an addition of 61 runs. Chatterton and Davidson made a fine stand for the sixth wicket, putting on altogether 54 runs; but after the separation of these batsmen (Chatterton was cleverly thrown out by Bruce at 135), Messrs Giffen and Turner quickly finished the innings.

The Australians did not begin their task of making 159 very hopefully, as three wickets were lost for 23 runs. Messrs Giffen and Lyons, however, added 68 for the fourth wicket. It should be mentioned that when he had scored a single Mr Lyons was let off by Quaife at cover-point. This mistake was irreparable, for the batsman stayed until 136, when he was caught in the long field for 64, the result of 90 minutes' play; he hit six fours, two threes and ten twos. Eventually the Australians won by four wickets.

21 August: SOMERSET v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4038.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 August, page 9)

Somerset did remarkably well at Taunton yesterday, and the present position of the game with Nottinghamshire gives a prospect of their repeating their success of last year over the midland county.

Notts, who ere without Mr Dixon and Sherwin, won the toss and took first innings on a damp wicket, which helped the bowlers considerably. Mr Woods, Tyler and Mr Hedley all showed skill with the ball. Shrewsbury and Mr Jones made 39 for the first wicket, but the whole side was out in a little over two hours for 100. The last five batsmen were dismissed in 35 minutes for 14 runs.

Somerset in two and a half hours ran up 200 at a cost of only four wickets. The turf had much improved since the morning; but it was a fine batting performance, in which the chief honours were borne off by the captain, Mr Hewett, who is still not out. Mr Hedley made his 48 in 35 minutes; he hit nine fours.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 August, page 6)

Somerset gained a brilliant victory at Taunton last evening over Nottinghamshire, the game being extended beyond the hour fixed for the drawing of stumps in order to finish. An innings and 90 runs was the balance in favour of the home side. Somerset certainly got the best of the wicket by going in second; but they used their opportunities remarkably well and all round their cricket was much the better.

After the way the game had gone on Monday the result did not altogether come as a surprise, for when play was resumed yesterday the home eleven with six wickets in hand were already 100 ahead. The feature of the batting was the 120 of the Somerset captain. Mr Hewett's driving and cutting were very brilliant; he made his runs in three hours and a quarter hitting two sixes (both out of the ground), 11 fours, seven threes and six twos, and until 112 he gave no chance. The pitch had grown false through the effects of the rain and sun, and Notts, who were 211 behind, were got out a second time in an hour and 50 minutes.

21 August: YORKSHIRE v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4039.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 22 August, page 9)

Bramall-lane Ground, Sheffield, has this season won so much notoriety by its bad wickets that the friends of Yorkshire looked with considerable anxiety to the return fixture with Kent, which began yesterday. However, the first day's play, witnessed by about 10,000 people, proved favourable to Yorkshire, who at the finish had seven wickets to fall and were only 75 runs behind their opponents.

Kent's first innings lasted a little over three hours and produced 161. In spite of the steadiness of A Hearne the sixth wicket fell at 53, but the subsequent partnerships of Messrs Weigall and Marchant (36), Wright and Martin (30) and Martin and Mr Malden (31) made up a fair score for the visitors. Martin's success was especially noteworthy. Peel bowled effectively.

Yorkshire, after losing Mr Jackson without scoring, fared well. Mr Sellers played soundly and his stand with Tunnicliffe, which yielded 51, was very bright. It should be noted that Mr Patterson, Mr J R Mason and W Hearne are absent from the Kent eleven.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 23 August, page 6)

Except, perhaps, during the early play, when their eighth wicket fell at 148, Yorkshire consistently maintained the advantage they gained on Monday in this match at Sheffield, and the position of affairs last night promised them a substantial victory to-day.

When the game was resumed they were within 75 of their rivals' score with only three men out; but five others were dismissed for 52. Moorhouse and Hirst, however, threw plenty of vigour into the game and in the course of 40 minutes added 53 runs. Hirst, who was last to leave, made his 43 in 50 minutes by five fours, three threes, five twos and singles. The best innings was that by Mr Sellers, whose 50 included six fours, three threes and five twos. Rain fell at the close of Yorkshire's batting.

Kent, who were 50 behind, lost six men for 49; but subsequently Mr Le Fleming, Mr Marchant and Wright improved matters and the total reached 127. Mr Le Fleming played remarkably well. Yorkshire got 30 of the 78 necessary to win before the drawing of stumps without the loss of a wicket.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 24 August, page 9)

As every one must have expected from the position of the game, at Sheffield, on Tuesday night, an easy victory awaited Yorkshire yesterday. They had gone in wanting 78 to win, and Messrs Jackson and Sellers, who had already scored 30, continued to play so well that it appeared very probable the runs would be hit off without the loss of a wicket.

However, when within 11 of the right number, both men were out. Mr Sellers's 42 was the result of 50 minutes' play and included six fours and four twos. Brown and Tunnicliffe made the last two runs and Yorkshire won by eight wickets, a victory thoroughly merited by their capital play.

Wednesday 23 August, page 6: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

The following will represent England in this match at Manchester to-morrow: - Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr G M'Gregor, Mr W W Read, Shrewsbury, Gunn, Briggs, Mold, Albert Ward, Richardson and Brockwell.

Lockwood cannot play because he has not recovered from the sprain he received last week, and Mr F S Jackson, it is understood, has decided to help his county in their match with Sussex at Brighton.

Yesterday's results leave the first position among the counties for this season assured to Yorkshire, who have one more match to play – viz., with Sussex at Brighton, beginning to-day. Had the rain prevented the Lord's match from reaching a definite issue there would have been a possibility of Yorkshire and Lancashire finishing with seven points each; but this could only have been brought about by the former losing to Sussex and the latter beating Notts next week at Manchester.

Surrey is the first county to complete their programme, and their record of seven wins and eight losses compares ill with last season's 13 wins and two losses. The present positions are as follows:

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	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	15	11	3	1	8
Lancashire	15	9	4	2	5
Middlesex	15	9	5	1	4
Kent	14	5	4	5	1
Surrey	16	7	8	1	-1
Sussex	14	4	6	4	-2
Nottinghamshire	15	4	7	4	-3
Somerset	15	3	8	4	-5
Gloucestershire	15	3	10	2	-7

In this table drawn games are not reckoned, while the losses are deducted from the wins.

24 August: ENGLAND v AUSTRALIA

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4040.html)

Thursday 24 August, page 9

To-day, at the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, the last of the three matches between the Australian team and England begins. The contest at Lord's was drawn when England were in a winning position, while the victory of England in the second fixture a week ago yesterday scarcely needs recalling.

It was understood that the Lancashire executive selected the side which won so easily at the Oval to play in the third game, but Lockwood's strain and Mr F S Jackson's wish to aid his county left a couple of vacancies, which have been filled by Richardson and Brockwell. Both with bat and ball the latter has worked very hard and achieved many successes for Surrey this season, while cricketers generally are also familiar with Richardson's skill as a fast bowler. The absence of Mr Jackson and Lockwood, however, is a great loss to England.

The names of the England eleven are: - Dr W G Grace, Mr A E Stoddart, Mr W W Read, Mr G M'Gregor, Shrewsbury, Gunn, Albert Ward, Briggs, Mold, Brockwell and Richardson. The Australians will not select their side until this morning.

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 August, page 9)

The Australians started the third of their matches against the Mother Country at Manchester, yesterday, with a piece of good fortune that was denied them both at Lord's and the Oval – that of winning the toss. This, as will be seen, they turned to good account against the strong bowling of their opponents.

England had two alterations from the team who were victorious at the Oval – Brockwell and Richardson taking the places of Mr F S Jackson and Lockwood – variations which did not tend to improve the side. The colonials played identically the same eleven which appeared in the two previous matches.

Rain had fallen on Wednesday; but a high, drying wind swept across the ground yesterday. The attendance at Old Trafford was not particularly large for such a match at the start, but it improved in the afternoon, when there were about 8,000 spectators. The cricket was intently watched, and so far the batting honours lay with Mr Bruce, while Richardson's bowling was most effective.

At noon it became known that the Australians had won the toss, and soon afterwards the Englishmen entered the field. Messrs Bannerman and Lyons began the batting. Mold started the bowling from the Stretford end with his men disposed thus: - Mr M'Gregor wicket-keeper, Shrewsbury point, Briggs cover-point, Brockwell slip, Mr Read cover-slip, Dr Grace extra-slip, Gunn third man, Mr Stoddart mid-off, Richardson mid-on and A Ward long-leg. The first ball Mr Bannerman hit square for four, but nothing else came from the over.

Briggs was the other bowler, his field being as follows: - Mr M'Gregor wicket-keeper, Shrewsbury point, Mr Stoddart cover-point, Dr Grace slip, Brockwell third man, Richardson mid-on, Mold mid-off, Gunn long-on, Mr Read deep-field (almost behind the bowler) and A Ward long-off. Mr Lyons

started promisingly by driving the second ball to the ring and sending the third to the off for a couple. He then had a lucky snick for four, after which he cut a ball of Mold's through the slips that went dangerously near to Brockwell. Thirty runs were the result of a quarter of an hour's play, and then Mr Lyons was finely caught at wicket.

Mr Giffen joined Mr Bannerman, who was playing for close upon half an hour without having reached anything beyond his first four. He relieved this steadiness by cutting Mold to the spectators. Runs still came at a tardy pace. A chance to slip by Mr Bannerman when he had made 11 was missed by Brockwell. Fifty runs came in 55 minutes, the last 20 of which had been very slowly obtained. A change was adopted at 53, Richardson going on for Mold. The bowling of Briggs was most difficult, and nothing but singles were scored from him for some time. In the Surrey player's fourth over Mr Giffen was bowled, and two wickets were thus secured for 59 runs in an hour and a quarter.

Mr Trott filled the vacancy, and Briggs treated Mr Bannerman with a long hop to leg, which was promptly hit for four, while the new-comer responded by driving Richardson to the boundary. With the total advanced to 69 a smart catch at wicket dismissed Mr Bannerman. Three down. On the arrival of Mr Bruce a cut to the railings was made by Mr Trott from Richardson; but the next ball he played under and Dr Grace caught it exceedingly well at third man.

Messrs Bruce and Graham were next associated, and an excellent piece of fielding by Briggs at cover-point was deservedly applauded. The batting was good, though not very productive. Mr Graham cut Richardson finely for four, and in this bowler's next over Mr Bruce did the same, the 100 being reached after an hour and fifty minutes' play. Mold was tried and, in his second over, Mr Graham was twice badly struck. At luncheon the total stood at 100.

On the resumption of play Briggs and Mold still had charge of the bowling. From the former Mr Bruce made a brilliant drive straight to the canvas, and then six runs came in an over of the same bowler's. The total having been conducted to 129, Mr Graham was out leg-before, his partnership with Mr Bruce having yielded 56. Half the wickets were now lost.

The first ball sent to Mr Gregory, who followed in, clean bowled him, and his place was taken by Mr Trumble. The latter cut Briggs to the boundary, and Mr Bruce drove him to the off for three. After a little careful play a magnificent drive to the on was made by Mr Bruce, the ball pitching over the ring. The 150 was sign at 4.35, and soon afterwards a twofold change in the attack was resorted to, the Lancastrian bowlers giving way to those from Surrey – Richardson and Brockwell. Seven were obtained from the latter's first over, in which were four from an off-drive by Mr Bruce, which completed this batsman's 50, obtained in an hour and a quarter. He next cut Brockwell for four and sent the other bowler to the leg boundary. However, he was then finely caught at slip by Mr Read with the left hand. He had been batting an hour and 40 minutes for his 68, in which were eight fours, four threes, eight twos and singles. Seven for 194, the last wicket having put on 64 runs.

Mr M'Leod appeared, and Briggs, who relieved Brockwell, clean bowled him. Mr Turner stayed while the 200 was signalled as the result of nearly three and a half hours' play. Mr Trumble gave a return chance to Briggs, but escaped. In the following over he lost the company of Mr Turner, clean bowled, and Mr Blackham as usual brought up the rear. Only three runs were added and Mr Trumble was also bowled; total, 204; duration of innings, three hours 40 minutes.

England opened their batting at 4.50 with Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart. The bowling was begun by

Mr Giffen, whose field was as follows: - Mr Blackham, wicket-keeper; Mr Trott, point; Mr Gregory, cover-point; Mr M'Leod, third man; Mr Lyons, mid-on; Mr Trumble, mid-off; Mr Graham, long-on; Mr Bannerman, long-off; Mr Turner, short-leg; and Mr Bruce, deep square-leg. Four byes were registered in the first over.

Mr Turner had charge of the attack from the Old Trafford end, his fieldsmen being disposed thus: - Mr Blackham, wicket-keeper; Mr Trott, point; Mr Giffen, cover-point; Mr Bannerman, mid-off; Mr Gregory, deep mid-off; Mr Lyons, mid-on; Mr Trumble, slip; Mr Graham, third man; Mr M'Leod, long-on; and Mr Bruce, long-off. The second ball Dr Grace played to the off and, in attempting a sharp run, Mr Stoddart was out, the wicket being thrown down by Mr Gregory with only four byes recorded.

Shrewsbury joined the England captain. The scoring was particularly slow, as in half an hour only 16 runs were obtained. Shrewsbury then cut a ball of Mr Giffen's through the slips for four, but in the same over he nearly played on. Dr Grace made two splendid drives to the boundary in successive overs from Mr Turner. When Shrewsbury had been in 55 minutes for a dozen runs he was out to a remarkably good catch at long-leg. Two for 43.

Gunn, who came next on the order, drove the ball finely to the off boundary and Dr Grace made a late cut for four. These batsmen continued together until 6 o'clock, when stumps were drawn for the day . . .

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 August, page 11)

The friends of English cricket at Manchester yesterday felt anxious when they saw their fine batsmen succumb steadily to the skill of Mr George Giffen and his companions. But the anxiety passed away as Gunn, by the exercise of care and patience, mastered the Australian bowling and a succession of brief but invaluable partnerships helped him to his 100 and England to her lead of 39 on the first innings.

Occasionally complaint is heard of Gunn's cautious tactics; but the people who saw his innings yesterday for England will not readily side with those who charge the great Nottinghamshire professional with slowness. When things were going so badly for England as they were, he had every justification for his early care; but the latter part of his innings was full of vigour and his forward play was keenly appreciated by all. The value of his 102 not out will be gathered by only a glimpse at the score, in which, except Dr Grace, no one else ran even into twenties. The only other scorers of hundreds in such important contests have been Dr Grace, Mr A G Steel, Mr W W Read, Shrewsbury and Mr F S Jackson. It is also worthy of remark that in each of this year's representative matches 100 has been scored for England – the other instances were Mr Jackson's 103 at the Oval and Shrewsbury's 106 at Lord's.

In the early part of the day England's players showed almost a justifiable disinclination to go in for hitting. The home side could scarcely attempt forcing with so much at stake, and in the end they claimed a lead of 39. Any dullness in the morning was compensated for by the bright cricket of the afternoon, and in the last hour or so by the batting of Mr Lyons. There were between seven and eight thousand spectators.

England, who had lost Mr Stoddart and Shrewsbury for 54 runs, resumed their batting at 11.35, Dr Grace and Gunn, the not outs with 29 and 5, being opposed by Messrs Bruce and Giffen. The

batsmen adopted steadiness, and the only items in seven overs were a couple of very fine cuts to the boundary, one by each batsman. Mr Bruce, whom Dr Grace had hit for four, bowled the Gloucestershire captain's leg stump at 73. Dr Grace had played excellently for his 40, which had taken him an hour and a half to obtain.

Ward came next and the cricket grew very quiet. The batsmen resisted every temptations to hit the balls that were short and those that were bowled wide on the off-side. Some idea of the quietude will be gathered from the fact that only 12 were made in half an hour, while Gunn, who had been in an hour, was only credited with 14. However, although the scoring was in no sense rapid, Mr Blackham deemed it advisable to vary his bowling, so at 91 he put Mr Turner on for Mr Bruce. This was a fortunate change for the Australians, for with only a couple of runs added Mr Turner got Ward caught at wicket.

When Mr Walter Read arrived the spectators looked for something more lively in the cricket. But at first they were disappointed, as a quarter of an hour was taken to obtain the seven runs necessary for the completion of the 100, the signalling of which was made at 12.55. Mr Read now hit a couple of fine fours, and these, with a good piece of fielding by Mr Bruce, elicited warm applause from the spectators. The 100 had not long been passed, however, when Mr Read, playing forward to Mr Giffen, was clean bowled. Five for 112 was the record at the end of two hours and 40 minutes in the English innings.

Brockwell joined Gunn, who, after nearly playing on, gave a sharp chance to Mr Graham's left hand at third man. The great Nottingham batsman had then scored 32. Twenty-four were added while Brockwell was in, the Surrey professional falling to a skilful running catch by Mr Gregory at cover-point. Six for 136 was a meagre performance for the great England side. Briggs helped Gunn to advance the score to 145 before luncheon.

At the renewal of the game Messrs Giffen and Turner were still the bowlers. Gunn had a four (a cut) increased to six by an overthrow, and for this and another beautiful cut from the other end (Mr Giffen) he was loudly cheered. Mr Giffen, however, was not to be too lightly treated, and at 165 Briggs in trying to score from him was clean bowled. Seven down. Mr M'Gregor's partnership with Gunn was very fruitful. Thirty-one were added before Mr M'Gregor was stumped, and thus when he left the record was 196.

Now came Richardson, who has in more than one instance shown good hitting powers for his county. Gunn was playing brilliantly, and the signalling of the 200 and the passing of the Australian total were points in the game that were not overlooked by the spectators. So good was this stand that the Australian bowling was changed at each end, Messrs Bruce and Trumble going on. Mr Giffen had not been relieved before in the innings. The changes were effective. Richardson, after helping to add 42 in 30 minutes, was bowled, and Mold, the last man, stayed just long enough to enable Gunn to get into three figures.

It was a quarter-past 4 when England were all out for 243. Gunn carried his bat for a great innings of 102; he was playing four hours and ten minutes and hit nine fours, two threes and 19 twos. One of his fours was increased to six by an overthrow.

With arrears of 39 Australia went in a second time. Mr Lyons, who started with Mr Bannerman at half-past 4, threw great vigour into his play. His brilliant hitting caused various changes in the bowling – Richardson and Briggs began; and the latter was taken off for Mold, and afterwards put on for Richardson. In 35 minutes 56 were made, and then Mold bowled Mr Lyons off his pads. Mr

Giffen stayed while 23 were put on, when he was well caught at slip, while at 92 a “shooter” from Mold got out Mr Trott. Mr M’Leod arrived, and when stumps were drawn the Australians were 54 ahead with seven wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Monday 28 August, page 5)

The draw is always an unsatisfactory ending to a match, and regrets were pretty plentiful at Manchester on Saturday evening, when the third and last of the representative games between England and Australia was left unfinished for lack of time. On Saturday the playing hours were shortened by two showers, which robbed the match in all of 40 minutes.

The position of affairs on Friday night gave a prospect of a fine third day; but the people in the North did not show that enthusiasm in this particular game that was found either at Lord’s or the Oval on the occasion of the other matches. Five thousand was a liberal estimate of Saturday’s gate at Old Trafford. But the inquiries for news as to how the contest was going showed that the interest in the country generally was very keen.

For a long while England seemed to have the game in hand, but some errors in the field and the stands for the last two Australian wickets left them insufficient time to get the 198 runs they wanted to win. However, in the two hours and ten minutes they scored 118 of these, and although the loss of Gunn and Ward in the last few minutes left the drawn match less in their favour than at one time seemed probable, with the wicket still sound and plenty of batting skill remaining, the task appeared to be well within their capacity.

The Australians must be gratified by the capital game they gave England. Mr Bannerman, by his stay of nearly three hours and a half for 60, showed that he has not forgotten how to watch the bowling, and that his unswerving patience still makes him refrain from often hitting even a moderately bad ball. The spectators found more attractive cricket in the brilliant batting of Mr Bruce, who scored 18 from an over from Briggs. It was the three-quarters of an hour taken after luncheon to get the ninth and tenth Australian wickets that probably cost England the match.

The faintest hope that the Australians might have possessed of dismissing England for a small score in the fourth innings must have gone quickly as Dr Grace and Mr Stoddart hit splendidly. The two great English batsmen cast anxiety to the winds and played some of the finest cricket in the match. Richardson bowled excellently in both innings, and his record of ten wickets for 156 runs made his part in the game very prominent.

The match should not be dismissed without further reference to the constitution of the home eleven. Mr F S Jackson and Lockwood were both much missed, and it was generally felt that Yorkshire, when assured of the first position among the counties, might have suggested to the Cambridge captain the necessity that England should have her very best side in the final meeting with Australia. However, the honours of the three test matches remain with England, who won the only contest in which a definite issue was reached and, whatever evenness was in the second drawn game, had much the better of the position at Lord’s.

The game was resumed at 11.40, Messrs Bannerman and M’Leod, the not-outs, with 26 and 1, facing the bowling of Richardson and Briggs. The total was 93 for three wickets. Only ten minutes’ play had taken place when a sharp shower delayed the progress of the match from 11.50 until 12.20. On resuming Mr M’Leod was soon caught at slip, the fourth wicket going at 99.

Mr Bruce came next, and during his stay the play grew very animated. The ball about this time got up badly; but Mr Bruce secured the warm applause of the spectators by his fine hitting. In one over from Briggs he scored 18 runs – four fours and a two. Mold went on for Briggs at 123, but after a delay of ten minutes through rain Mr Bruce continued his vigorous game, his cutting being particularly good, while Shrewsbury at point was cheered for stopping one of this batsman's strokes. Having made 35, he was nearly caught at third man by Mr Stoddart, a narrow escape, however, that did not benefit him to any great extent, for at 153 he put up a short ball tamely into the hands of point. Some idea of the good cricket in this partnership is gained by the fact that in 40 minutes 54 runs were added, and of this number Mr Bruce made 36 by seven fours, a three, two twos and a single.

Mr Graham was the next to go in. Now occurred a bad mistake in the slips by Mr Read off Mold's bowling; Mr Bannerman, who had been giving so much trouble, was allowed to escape, and he had then scored 50 as the result of two and a half hours' play. Dr Grace soon put Briggs on again, and with immediate success, for in the first over Mr Graham was stumped. Richardson, three runs later, got out Mr Gregory, leg-before. Seven men were now dismissed for 173.

Still the game favoured England, for Mr Trumble, after making a couple of fours off Richardson, was cleverly run out by Mr M'Gregor. He had played a ball and called Mr Bannerman, but the latter refused, and Mr Trumble, in returning, slipped. He got his bat over, but then raised it and lost his wicket. Eight for 182. Thus the Australians were only 143 ahead with two wickets to fall. But the batsmen who remained did well. The record at luncheon was 190 for eight, Mr Bannerman being 60.

After the interval Richardson and Briggs were the bowlers. From the former a short ball struck Mr Turner on the right hand, putting out the little finger. He dropped his bat and made the run, and then went across to Dr Grace, who speedily got the finger back to its position. Then Mr Turner resumed batting amid general cheering. The figures reached 200, at which stage a "bailer" from Richardson dismissed Mr Bannerman. He had been in three hours and 25 minutes for 60, his last ten runs having occupied 55 minutes. His play was characterized by all that care and patience on which his fame as a batsman rests. His chief hits were eight fours, three threes and four twos.

The prospect of England's winning passed away during the next 25 minutes, for the last wicket put on 36 runs. Mr Blackham batted with much success, and when he lost Mr Turner, caught at mid-on, at 3.30, the total stood at 236. The duration of the innings was about four hours.

As only two hours and ten minutes remained for the Englishmen to play, and with 198 necessary for victory, there was not much chance of any result excepting a draw. It was extremely unlikely that the batsmen would run the risk of getting out by trying to force the game at such a pace as would have been necessary to score 198 in 130 minutes, and, on the other hand, as the wicket was in pretty good order, the Australians could not have expected to get England out in the time if the latter played their customary game.

In their 70 minutes' partnership Mr Stoddart and Dr Grace played splendidly. In the first few overs from Messrs Bruce and Giffen there were sundry fours, and when Mr Trumble came on the pace did not slacken. Each batsman had made several fine cuts and drives for fours; but perhaps the most remarkable hits were by Mr Stoddart, who scored twice from Mr Trumble when the ball had risen almost up to his face, by getting his bat high and hitting to leg. When Mr Turner was put on Mr Stoddart made a big drive into the long-field that Mr Bruce might have caught, but he was close to

the boundary and the railings on this ground are dangerous. Dr Grace next drove a ball from Mr Turner over the people's heads, and there was a slight delay because it could not be found. Seventy were made in just over the hour, but at 78 Mr Stoddart in trying to place a ball from Mr Trumble was caught at short-leg. Thus ended perhaps the best 70 minutes' cricket of the match. Mr Stoddart hit eight fours.

Then the play became quieter. Shrewsbury hit Mr Trumble thrice for four, but with the 100 up at half-past 5 Dr Grace was cleverly caught at point. He had been in an hour and 50 minutes, and his 45 included four fours, a three and three twos. At 117 Mr Trumble bowled out Gunn and Ward with successive balls, and when stumps were drawn England were 79 behind with six wickets to fall. Considering the remaining batting skill in the home side the draw rather favoured England.

24 August: MIDDLESEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4041.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 August, page 9)

At Lord's, yesterday, the wicket in the early part of the day was so heavy that Mr Webbe, when he won the toss, decided to put his opponents in. This policy, though always attended with considerable risk, proved successful. Rawlin and Hearne bowled well, and after six men were out for 27, the play of Mr Wilson, Mr Marchant and Martin raised the total of the innings to only 95, as the result of two and a quarter hours' cricket.

Middlesex seemed likely to start well, but Mr Webbe and Mr Ford were run out, and when the seventh wicket fell the score was only 62. Mr Westhorpe and Mr Henery added 53 in an hour, so that at the finish Middlesex had rather the better of the game. Each side had several of its best cricketers away.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 August, page 11)

Yesterday's cricket at Lord's furnished a marked contrast with that seen on the opening day of Middlesex v Kent. The bowlers' triumphs gave way to brilliant batting and, after fighting for a long time a stern uphill game, Kent set their opponents a very good score to make in the last innings.

Middlesex, who led by 20 runs with two wickets to fall on Thursday evening, completed their first spell of batting for 166. The close was characterized by the fine 50 of Mr Henery, made in 90 minutes by four fours, four threes, four twos and singles.

Kent were 71 behind, and in spite of a stand of 30 by G G Hearne and Mr Le Fleming four wickets were lost before those arrears were cleared off. George Hearne left at 96, after which Messrs Wilson and Stewart put on 69 in 50 minutes for the sixth wicket and Messrs Wilson and Marchant 75 for the seventh in the same time. Mr Stewart's 55 included seven fours, three threes and six twos. Mr Wilson, who carried off the chief batting honours, was ninth out at 293 for a brilliant 91, obtained in two hours and 40 minutes and, except for a chance at wicket at 73, free from fault. He hit six fours, three threes and 15 twos. J T Hearne in the double innings took ten wickets for 152 runs. Middlesex have to go in to-day to make 223 to win.

Day 3 (report from Monday 28 August, page 5)

From beginning to end the return match between these counties was remarkable, and the finish at Lord's on Saturday was very exciting, Kent winning by only 12 runs. Middlesex had been left with 223 to obtain in the last innings, a task by no means easy with Messrs Stoddart and O'Brien away.

Messrs Webbe and Ford started well, although the former should have been caught at cover-point from the first ball sent him by A Hearne. By fine free play the figures reached 47, and then in the course of a few minutes three batsmen left: Mr Ford, bowled, Mr Scott caught at slip and Mr Foley out first ball. Three for 57. Mr Webbe stayed until 80 had been made in 75 minutes, and then he was caught at long-off for an excellent 32. Three other wickets fell before luncheon – Rawlin caught at mid-on, Mr Nepean and Henery bowled. The last-named was seventh out at 140 for a

capital 35.

Mr Westhorpe left quickly after the interval, but the last two partnerships were very fruitful. Hearne scored 17 out of the 24 added for the ninth wicket, after which Messrs Lucas and Menzies made a very bold attempt to win the match. Although the bowling was varied they steadily increased the score and the spectators cheered warmly when the 20 went up within a few minutes of 4 o'clock. When only 12 were wanted to tie Mr Lucas returned the ball. The tenth wicket had yielded 43 runs. Mr Mason, the Winchester captain, bowled remarkably well, and his six wickets averaged less than 12 runs each. This was the last first-class match at Lord's, and it proved an appropriate end to a very fine season.

24 August: SUSSEX v YORKSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4042.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 August, page 9)

Yesterday's play at Brighton, in the opening of the return match between Yorkshire and Sussex, proved remarkably interesting. Going in first, Sussex on the good wicket did well up to luncheon time, when their figures were 118 for the loss of two batsmen. But so greatly did the aspect of the game change afterwards that, in the course of 90 minutes, the last eight wickets fell for an additional 74 runs.

The innings of 192 occupied altogether three and a half hours. Marlow, who went in first, was third to leave for a faultless 83, in which were 12 fours, three threes and eight twos. Wainwright, when he was put on again at 155, took six wickets in 12 overs and four balls for 13 runs. His full analysis was six for 23.

Yorkshire in an hour and a quarter made 97 for four wickets, the feature of the play being the fine batting of Brown.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 August, page 11)

At the Hove Ground, Brighton, yesterday, a thoroughly good day's cricket was witnessed. Yorkshire increased their overnight score of 97 for four wickets to 203, the additional runs being made in an hour and a half. Brown's excellent 62 included eight fours, three threes and three twos. Humphreys's lobbs had once more been effective, and his eight wickets for 98 was a great performance.

Sussex, who were 11 runs behind, fared so badly that seven of the side were out for 62; but unexpected resistance was afterwards offered by Butt and Lowe. Butt hit nine fours, four threes and five twos. Yorkshire went in to get 184 to win . . .

Day 3 (report from Monday 28 August, page 5)

Yorkshire wound up their season with a brilliant victory over Sussex at the Hove Ground, Brighton, on Saturday. The stout defence of the last few Sussex batsmen had left the visitors with 184 to make in the fourth innings, and of these 21 had been got overnight without loss of wicket.

Mistakes in the field materially helped Yorkshire to win easily, and a chance of running out Mr Sellers and another of catching Brown were followed by other mistakes on the part of Sussex. Mr Sellers and Brown scored 94 for the first innings, and then both were dismissed; the amateur returned the ball and the professional was caught at slip. Brown, who had made over 100 in the match, hit six fours, two threes and six twos. Subsequently there was more brilliant batting by Messrs Jackson and Tunnicliffe, the latter making nine fours and two threes. Yorkshire won by eight wickets. Tunnicliffe should have been caught at wicket first ball, while Mr Jackson was let off at 12 by Mr Brann.

24 August: ESSEX v SURREY (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128152.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 25 August, page 9)

For the greater part of yesterday the bowlers carried all before them at the Lyttelton Ground, Leyton, in the return match between Essex and Surrey. Before the turf had recovered from the rain of the previous day Essex were got out in a little over an hour for 62, which was mainly due to the effective bowling of the young Surrey professional, F Smith, who secured five wickets for 18 runs.

Although the wicket was steadily improving, Mr Kortright rapidly bowled out the Surrey men, who were beaten by his wonderful pace. He took seven wickets clean bowled, and his full analysis was eight for 29. Surrey were disposed of in less than an hour and a half, and were eighteen runs behind.

Essex fared well in the second innings. Mr Lucas played fine cricket and was strongly supported by Carpenter, who helped to add 59.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 26 August, page 11)

The Essex eleven followed up the advantage they had gained on Thursday evening at Leyton, and yesterday afternoon beat Surrey by 102 runs. Although the home second score was scarcely so large as it promised to be the night before, still the Surrey professionals were left with the substantial number of 179 to make in the fourth innings.

The visitors showed no capacity for playing the wonderfully fast bowling of Mr Kortright, who took five wickets for 35 runs, knocking a stump out of the ground in each instance, while he finished up the Surrey innings in a summary fashion at 76 by bowling out Mills, Sharpe and Smith in his last over. Such pace as that with which Mr Kortright bowled on Thursday and yesterday is rarely seen. In the two days he took altogether 13 wickets (12 clean bowled) for 64 runs, and further contributed to his side's victory by the two good catches he made in the slips. The Surrey innings lasted only 80 minutes.

The batting of Mr A P Lucas was by far the best in the match, and his 58 included two fours, five threes and seven twos. Smith, Surrey's new left-hand bowler, had a very fine record, for in the two innings he bowled 11 wickets for 69.

Yorkshire's success at Brighton on Saturday, with which they completed their season, gives them the substantial lead of four players from Lancashire, who have, however, one more match to play. In 1892 Yorkshire were as low as sixth on the list without a point, the five wins being discounted by five losses. Middlesex, by losing to Kent at Lord's, widened the difference between their own and the Lancashire records, while, should Kent beat Surrey in the game beginning to-day, there will be a tie for third place. The present positions are as follows: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	16	12	3	1	9
Lancashire	15	9	4	2	5
Middlesex	16	9	6	1	3
Kent	15	6	4	5	2
Surrey	16	7	8	1	-1
Nottinghamshire	15	4	7	4	-3
Sussex	15	4	7	4	-3
Somerset	15	3	8	4	-5
Gloucestershire	15	3	10	2	-7

In this table drawn games are not reckoned, while the losses are deducted from the wins.

The last three first-class county matches begin to-day.

28 August: LANCASHIRE v NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4044.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 August, page 8)

About 10,000 people visited the Old Trafford Ground, Manchester, yesterday, and saw the Notts team at the wickets the whole day. The batting honours rested almost wholly with three men – Shrewsbury, Gunn and Flowers, who contributed 253 of the 289. There were only two long partnerships – viz., the 85 added by Gunn and Shrewsbury in an hour and a half for the second wicket, and the 150 put on by Shrewsbury and Flowers in two and a quarter hours for the fourth.

Shrewsbury made his 101 in a little over four hours by finished cricket; he hit ten fours, eight threes and eight twos. He obtained 100 against Lancashire in the first match at Trent-bridge. Flowers was seventh to leave at 285. He gave a chance at 46, but otherwise his 107 was a brilliant display of vigorous batting. He was in two and three-quarter hours and hit 12 fours, four threes and ten twos. With this innings Flowers secures a place among those who have scored over 1,000 runs this season.

Although the score was 266 when the fifth Notts wicket fell, the whole side was out for 289. Mold dismissed the last three batsmen in five balls, and he had the fine analysis of eight wickets for 76 runs.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 August, page 9)

The seven or eight thousand people who visited Old Trafford, Manchester, yesterday must have been a little disappointed by the rather feeble game of the majority of Lancashire's batsmen. Monday had been taken up with the first innings of Nottinghamshire, who scored 289.

Up to luncheon time yesterday the home side did very well, and at this stage the record was 156 for four. But in the next hour the outstanding wickets were captured for 27 runs. Flowers met with great success in bowling. The feature of the home batting was the 82 made by Albert Ward, who played soundly and took three and a half hours to get his runs. He went in first and was seventh out at 174, having scored nine fours, seven threes and six twos. Briggs helped him to add 62 in three-quarters of an hour, and Tinsley stayed while 36 were obtained.

In the follow-on Lancashire fared so badly that seven of the side went for 77; but a better complexion was put on affairs by Tinsley, who received some support from Oakley and Mr Kemble, and at the close of the day Lancashire were 39 ahead with one wicket to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 31 August, page 6)

In spite of the vigorous play of the last few Lancastrians at Old Trafford, Nottinghamshire were left yesterday with only 59 to make for victory, and these were secured at the cost of one wicket.

28 August: SOMERSET v GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4045.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 August, page 8)

At Taunton yesterday the Somerset eleven scored heavily and their innings extended over the whole five hours available for play. Messrs Hewett and L C H Palairet made a brilliant beginning and in two hours obtained 163 for the first wicket. The home captain showed all his old skill in forcing the game and without giving a chance ran up 112 (20 fours, three threes, four twos and singles). Mr L C H Palairet was second out at 169; in his 53 were six fours and three twos.

Mr R C N Palairet played in fine style and, with Mr Woods, put on 64 in 35 minutes, and was not dismissed until 291. Among his figures were six fours, three threes and three twos. Late in the day Messrs Dunlop and Hill, profiting by some mistakes in the field, added 76 in half an hour, and finally the innings closed . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 August, page 9)

Yesterday at Taunton the Somerset players bowled and fielded splendidly, with the result that they got Gloucestershire out twice in the course of a little over five hours, and won by an innings and 170 runs.

The visitors began batting in the morning against the formidable Somerset score of 412, but beyond Mr Rice no one met with any considerable success. Mr Rice went in second wicket down at 17 and stayed an hour and three-quarters, making 44 out of 74 before he was ninth out at 91. His chief hits were a five, four fours, two threes and one two. Tyler bowled wonderfully well.

Gloucestershire followed on with arrears of 285, and at their second attempt fared even worse than in their first innings. Messrs Ferris and De Winton made some good strokes, yet a little before 6 o'clock the game was over. Nichols took the last three wickets at a cost of a solitary run.

28 August: SUSSEX v KENT

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4046.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 August, page 8)

For this match at Brighton, yesterday, the Hove ground furnished one of its famous hard and true wickets. The advantage of first innings fell to Kent, who took advantage of their opportunities to such a degree that they were batting nearly the whole of cricketing hours and, scoring double figures to a man, made 353. It was a curiously even innings in point of distribution of runs among the members of the side.

The foundation of a good total was laid by Mr Mason and A Hearne, who obtained 77 in 50 minutes for the first partnership. The Winchester captain, beyond a chance at wicket, made no mistake, and in a brilliant 48 were six fours, a three and six twos. After the fifth wicket fell at 167 a long spell of rapid scoring was begun. Mr Le Fleming, aided by a couple of escapes, made 39 out of 73 in 40 minutes, and Messrs Wilson and Marchant also secured runs quickly. Mr Wilson, who was stumped at 285 for 63, hit seven fours, a three and six twos, while Mr Marchant contributed five fours, two threes and five twos. Humphreys took five wickets, but they cost 30 runs each. Sussex went in . . .

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 August, page 9)

Yesterday was another great day for batsmen on the Hove Ground, at Brighton. The wicket seemed faster than on Monday, when Kent made 353; but Sussex achieved a great feat in getting 15 beyond that number.

The home side resumed their innings, in which one wicket had fallen for 51, and in an hour Bean and Mr Murdoch scored 93, their partnership altogether realizing 111. Bean's play on the off side was particularly good; he obtained his 89 in an hour and 40 minutes, and his principal hits were 14 fours, three threes and six twos, while beyond a chance to A Hearne at mid-off, when his score was 57, he made no mistake. The Sussex captain showed much of his old skill in getting his 54 (eight fours, two threes and two twos), but Mr Brann should have been caught at slip before he had scored. Mr Newham played very finely for his 97, which he made in two hours and 40 minutes; he went in third wicket down at 175 and was seventh out at 347, having contributed among other items eight fours, five threes and nine twos.

Kent batted a second time and Mr Mason with A Hearne ran up 42 in 25 minutes, leaving the game in a very even position. The weather proved fine and there was a large company.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 31 August, page 6)

After an interesting day's cricket at Brighton yesterday, this match was left drawn. Kent declared their innings closed and then got out six of their opponents for 74, so that the draw was all in favour of the visitors, for Sussex still wanted 174 to win with only four wickets to fall.

28 August: YORKSHIRE v MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4047.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 August, page 8)

Additional interest was aroused by the match between Marylebone and Yorkshire, the first fixture of the festival at Scarborough, because of the high position obtained by Yorkshire among the counties and the powerful eleven sent down from Lord's to oppose the champions. Fine weather favoured the play and there was a company of about 4,000. The fiery wicket helped the bowlers so much that scoring was difficult all day.

Going in first, the Marylebone batsmen did fairly well at the start; Mr Wright was the most successful of them. Mr Stoddart left at 35, but Mr O'Brien helped to advance the figures to 77 before luncheon. Subsequently, Davenport batted vigorously. However, when Mr Ernest Smith was put on to bowl at 104 the character of the game greatly changed; the Oxford man took seven of the last eight wickets for 40 runs. Marylebone were all out at 25 minutes past 4 for 162.

Yorkshire found the bowling of J T Hearne and Mr Spofforth very effective; but, after six of the side had gone for 62, their affairs improved during the stay of Mr Smith.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 August, page 9)

In their triumph at Scarborough yesterday the Yorkshire eleven secured one of their most brilliant successes this season. Mr F S Jackson, who has of late so greatly extended his fame as a batsman, carried off the honours of the game with a remarkable innings of 111 (not out). It was played at a somewhat critical stage of the match, for Yorkshire had gone in to make 195 in the fourth innings on a pitch that, while it had lost its fiery nature of Monday, had gone through much hard work.

But Mr Jackson, from the time he went in, forced the game in a wonderful way against such good bowlers as are Hearne, Rawlin and Mr Spofforth. He made 50 out of 70 in an hour, 100 out of 156 in an hour and three-quarters, and 111 out of 106 in two hours. Mr Sellers and Brown had both been dismissed by the time the figures reached 57, but Tunnicliffe played patiently and scored only 21 out of the 73 put on for the third wicket.

The climax of the rapid run-getting was reached when Messrs Smith and Jackson got the last 66 in 20 minutes. Mr Jackson hit 16 fours, four threes and seven twos, and, except for a couple of difficult chances, he made no mistakes. Mr Smith, who obtained 40 of the last 66, contributed seven fours and four twos.

Early in the day Yorkshire had finished their first innings in a minority of 76, but they disposed of Marylebone a second time in an hour and 50 minutes for 118. Hearne and Hirst bowled very well. Yorkshire won by seven wickets.

28 August: SURREY v DERBYSHIRE (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/128/128141.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 August, page 8)

The two chief points in a good day's cricket at the Oval yesterday were the 108 by Maurice Read, whose first hundred it is this season, and the long partnership between Brockwell and Read, who in an hour and 50 minutes added 164 runs for the fifth wicket.

Surrey were batting altogether four hours and 40 minutes. Their score of 334 was smaller than at one time seemed likely, for the third hundred went up with only five men out; but the innings closed during the next half hour. Maurice Read went in second wicket down at 74 and was fifth to leave, caught at short slip at 269; he was missed at mid-on by Mr S H Evershed when his figures were 25 and he also made sundry other bad strokes. Yet there was plenty of excellence in his 108, which he obtained in two hours and a quarter. His chief hits were 13 fours, three threes and 13 twos.

Brockwell occupied about two hours and a half in making 72; he played in fine style and contributed six fours, four threes and six twos. Earlier in the day Hayward had shown excellent form for 49, scored in an hour and a quarter, by seven fours, a three and four twos. The Derbyshire fielding was rather indifferent.

In the last 40 minutes the visitors lost a couple of their best men for 31. Both counties are well represented. Surrey are again playing Smith, the left-hand medium-pace bowler, who did so well against Leicestershire and Essex.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 August, page 9)

Derbyshire threw plenty of spirit into their uphill game against Surrey at the Oval yesterday, yet before the day ended Surrey almost won the match. The visitors, who had overnight begun their innings and lost two batsmen for 31 runs, did badly for a time yesterday morning and the fifth wicket fell at 75.

Some of the best cricket of the contest was then shown by Chatterton and Storer, who remained together an hour and put on 73 runs. Chatterton was batting an hour and a half for his 59 made without a chance by a five, six fours, two threes, three twos and singles. Storer played excellently; he went in fifth wicket down at 75 and was eighth to leave at 199. His 57 (obtained in an hour and 40 minutes) included six fours, five threes and a two. Some free play by Mr Walker and Porter gave a bright close to the first innings of Derbyshire, who followed on with arrears of 102.

Their second attempt was less successful and in two hours and a quarter the side was out for 162. The best points in the innings were the 45 by Mr Wright and the stand for the last wicket by Malthouse and Porter, who obtained 44 in 20 minutes. Mr Wright was batting an hour and a quarter, and hit six fours, three threes and two twos. Richardson and Hayward both bowled effectively.

Surrey were left with 61 to make for victory, and at the cost of three wickets they had got to within 26 of this number when stumps were drawn.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 31 August, page 6)

Surrey easily obtained the last few runs in this match at the Oval yesterday and won by seven wickets.

28 August: BLACKPOOL v AUSTRALIANS (not first-class)

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4048.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 29 August, page 8)

Yesterday, at Blackpool, on the new athletic ground, the Australians began a match with a professional and amateur sixteen. The best feature in the day's cricket was the fine hitting of Mr Lyons, who in three-quarters of an hour scored 62 out of 71. Thrice he drove the ball out of the ground and also made six fours and six twos. He was, however, twice missed.

As the turf did not seem likely to prove true, cocoanut matting was spread over the pitch. The Englishmen did badly in the last hour of the day. There were several thousand spectators.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 30 August, page 9)

There were some 2,000 spectators of yesterday's cricket in this match at the new athletic ground at Blackpool. The Sixteen, who had started very badly on Monday night, did better, and for the improvement they were indebted largely to the stand of 46 for the seventh wicket by Messrs Sankey and Haslewood, and to the capital innings by Wade, the old Yorkshire player, who hit five fours, three threes and five twos.

The Australians led by 31 on the first innings, and going in a second time they made 65, having still eight wickets to fall.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 31 August, page 6)

Yesterday, at Blackpool, the Australians won this match by 79 runs.

Tuesday 29 August, page 8: DR W G GRACE AND THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE ELEVEN

It is understood that Dr W G Grace has intimated to the executive of the Gloucestershire County Club his desire to resign the captaincy of the eleven at the end of the season. This step is doubtless the result of differences that have arisen with regard to the constitution of the eleven.

[Note: This includes first-class averages for each county. These can be found at:
http://cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Seasons/ENG/1893_ENG_County_Championship_1893.html]

The county season is at end and the championship, which Surrey had kept in the South since 1887, when they wrested it from Nottinghamshire, returns to the North. Australian cricket has, of course, attracted great attention, but the contests between the nine leading shires have retained their charm for the followers of our national game. Indeed, these form the staple of the season's programme and the struggle for supremacy has been well sustained throughout.

The exceptionally dry summer has affected the turf on many grounds and most of the wickets have been fast. It is somewhat curious to note, however, that the two counties which have been unfortunate in the matter of pitches are last season's champions and the holders of that position in 1893. At the Oval the turf has not yet got properly set since it was relaid, while in Yorkshire there has been grave cause for complaint.

Each county met the other twice, so that the 72 matches form a complete tournament. Of these 59 were brought to a definite issue, as against 54 last year. The results show an almost complete revolution in positions. Yorkshire, who were sixth on the list, have sprung into first place, a fact due to the consistent cricket played by them. For some years the executive have been drafting a lot of new blood into the team, and while these tactics were in progress there was a good deal in the shape of defeat to which they had to submit. Yet the idea has borne fruit, and they have now a set of young players that should take them successfully on for some seasons. Ulyett is the last of the old school in the team, and while his captaincy and experience have greatly aided the county (especially was this the case in their first win over Middlesex at Lord's) he has drifted slowly down the order of averages. His bowling has not been required much; but for many years past a first-class season has not closed without his taking a few wickets; this year he has not obtained one.

Yorkshire have shown great perseverance during many seasons of failures, and this alone makes their success all the more deserved. Mr F S Jackson is undoubtedly the great player of the side, and on Tuesday last, at Scarborough, his 111 on a bumpy wicket, preceded by his good work in the England matches, further illustrates his ability. Harrow has not produced such a fine player for a long time. Probably next year he will find more leisure for county matches now that his University career is over.

Apart from Yorkshire there was not much consistency of form among the counties, and their "in-and-out" play will cause the season to be well remembered. Surrey, even after their Middlesex losses, did not give up hope of getting to the front. Their win at Old Trafford was remarkably good. The wicket on which Yorkshire beat them at Sheffield was very bad, but missed catches did much towards losing even that match. Surrey's misfortunes began in earnest when Somerset beat them at the Oval. Of course, Lohmann's illness and consequent absence from the team was an incalculable loss. But the county is rich in young talent and there should not be much fear for the future.

If a thorough analysis could be made of the relative merits of players, Middlesex would be awarded the palm for brilliancy. Still that team possessed the elements of uncertainty and occasionally collapsed in an extraordinary fashion. Mr Stoddart has few equals among batsmen, while in J T Hearne they possess one of the best bowlers. Mr M'Gregor's wicket-keeping is also a strong feature in the eleven. Middlesex advance from fifth to third position.

Lancashire played splendidly, and though starting badly they come second on the list; this, too, after finishing up with a couple of losses. The attendances at Old Trafford were as large as ever.

Kent are suffering from their old complaint – i.e., the inability [always to] command their leading amateurs – but they played plenty of good cricket and have some promising new men, notably Mr Mason.

Weakness in bowling accounts largely for the poor record of Nottinghamshire. It is curious that a county that has so largely fed others with bowlers should fall short of the talent itself. Their batting figures, however, are even better than ever, and Gunn and Shrewsbury's cricket is a prominent feature.

The first year of Mr Murdoch's captaincy has been marked by a great improvement in Sussex, but they also are weak in attack. Perhaps the most disappointing feature of the season is the fall of so promising a county as Somerset from third to eighth place. Gloucestershire bring up the rear, but it is to be hoped that "the county of the Graces" will not be deprived of the captaincy of the most prominent member of that family.

The following table exhibits the positions of the leading counties, the losses being deducted from the wins, while the drawn games are not reckoned: -

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Yorkshire	16	12	3	1	9
Lancashire	16	9	5	2	4
Middlesex	16	9	6	1	3
Kent	16	6	4	6	2
Surrey	16	7	3	1	-1
Nottinghamshire	16	5	7	4	-2
Sussex	16	4	7	5	-3
Somerset	16	4	8	4	-4
Gloucestershire	16	3	11	2	-8

YORKSHIRE

The leading position among the counties has been won by Yorkshire in a decisive manner. This success has been due to the general excellence which ran through the whole side rather than to the skill of a few individual members. While Yorkshire has always possessed plenty of fine talent the team in some other years has been marked by its uncertainty, and one can hardly recollect a season of so much consistently good play as that now closed.

Yorkshire was first on the list ten years ago, but in those days county matches had not reached quite such an important place as they now occupy. Among the 12 victories there were many of great note. One of their best was the win of three wickets against Middlesex at Lord's in a long scoring match. At Sheffield also, on a very bad wicket, they defeated Surrey; while at Trent-bridge, in the return with Notts, they were victorious by an innings and 20 runs. It was in this latter match that Mr F S Jackson did so well both in batting and bowling.

The team experienced a long spell of bad wickets, especially on their own grounds, but they showed

no lack of capacity in any circumstances, and there was generally somebody that came off for them. Altogether they beat Gloucestershire, Middlesex, Kent, Sussex and Somerset twice each and won the Sheffield match with Surrey and that at Trent-bridge with Nottinghamshire. In the return with Surrey, on the Oval, they were quite outplayed, and against 356 their double innings amounted to only 365, and Surrey won by ten wickets. Lancashire beat them by an innings at Leeds, but the Old Trafford contest was very exciting and they lost by only five runs. Nottinghamshire had the best of the drawn game at Bradford.

The constitution of the champion side was not varied to any great extent during the season. Mr F S Jackson took his place in the eleven at the end of the Cambridge term, and Mr Ernest Smith greatly helped at times with his bowling. In Mr Sellers, Tunncliffe and Brown the side possess remarkably good batsmen; Wainwright and Peel are two fine all-round cricketers, for, in addition to taking the greatest share in the bowling, they batted admirably. Hirst, the fast bowler, thoroughly merited his position, and in batting, too, was frequently invaluable, and more than one instance could be mentioned of his turning the game late in the innings. Moorhouse, after standing out of some of the early cricket, secured a permanent place in the eleven, and he again had a creditable share in the successes, especially in the victory over Surrey at Sheffield. Wardall and Mounsey participated in the early matches, but their form fell off and they were subsequently both left out of the side.

The averages compare favourably with those of last year; but Wainwright, while not so successful in batting, has done much better in bowling, and his 1892 record of 77 wickets for 16 is succeeded by 90 wickets for 12. Fielding was a strong point in the Yorkshiremen's game and David Hunter was quite himself at the wicket.

LANCASHIRE

At one period of this month Lancashire played so well and met with such great success as [seriously to] threaten Yorkshire's position, especially after the August Bank holiday match at Sheffield. But the run of fortune was not sustained, and their defeat by Middlesex and Notts in the last two games left Yorkshire safe.

Undoubtedly the Lancastrians possess a fine team, but they rely rather on a few than on the whole of its members. Mold and Briggs are two great bowlers, and in batting Mr A C M'Laren, Albert Ward and Sugg are in the very first rank, yet the other members of the team are of only average ability if we except the wicket-keeper.

Lancashire started badly, but they got into form eventually, and then played a wonderfully powerful game. Their victories were over Yorkshire, Gloucester (twice), Sussex, Somerset, Surrey, Middlesex and Nottinghamshire. They lost to Kent (twice), Surrey, Middlesex and Nottinghamshire.

The three batsmen noted above all have fine averages; but the best batting was that of A Ward, whose consistent scoring was the outcome of great skill. He plays both a free and careful game, and can get runs on all kinds of wickets. That his batting was not unnoticed by the authorities at the big grounds (Lord's, Oval and Manchester) received proof in his being chosen to play in all three England matches against Australia, although in the first instance he was allowed to get off for the Lancashire game at Taunton. He is one of the few players who has scored over the 1,000 for his county. Ward was fifth on the list last year with 633 runs (average 26).

Indeed, most of the figures compare well with those of 1892. Mold and Briggs each took over 100 wickets, but the other bowling was not of any great account, and when these men did not come off Lancashire were quickly in difficulties. Mr Crosfield generally captained the team, in which Mr A N Hornby and Mr A G Steel made occasional appearances. The veteran Watson played in one match, after which he dropped out of the team.

MIDDLESEX

With such a fine team Middlesex should have found a higher place among than counties than that which has fallen to them. But amid all their brilliancy there was something uncertain in their game; the batting at times collapsed in a remarkable manner, and missed catches, too, had something to do with their ill-fortune.

After they had beaten Somerset and Surrey, every one was astonished at their defeat by Gloucestershire, at Lord's. Against Yorkshire they were got out cheaply on a good wicket, and their subsequent strong up-hill game was not sufficient to compensate for the early failures. Their two greatest feats were the victories, at Lord's, over Surrey and Nottinghamshire, whom they also beat on the other grounds. Following on, against 179, they actually beat Surrey, a result mainly due to the batting of Messrs Stoddart and O'Brien, who each scored over 100.

The first game with Nottinghamshire was characterized by the performances of Mr Stoddart, whose scores were 195, not out, and 124, while three of the totals exceeded 300. Lancashire beat them once, two games with Yorkshire were lost, and one each with Kent and Sussex. The other victories of Middlesex were in the return with Gloucestershire, the first match with Kent, the return with Lancashire and the first games with Somerset and Sussex. Their full record is nine wins, six losses and one drawn game.

Middlesex in two important instances were deprived of the services of two of their greatest cricketers, who were invited to play for England when the county had engagements with Yorkshire and Kent. Both these matches were lost when Messrs Stoddart and M'Gregor were away, and it is not hazarding much to say that the county but for its loyalty might have altered the result of these matches.

Looking at their game generally, it was full of excellence. There are two records in their batting and bowling that stand out pre-eminently – those of Mr Stoddart and J T Hearne. Mr Stoddart's aggregate of 1,178 runs, with an average of 47, is a considerable improvement on his 848 (average 30) of last season. He has played splendid cricket and the power of his strokes, whether in cutting, driving or leg-hitting, was wonderful.

J T Hearne, in a season of so many hard and true wickets, has dismissed 37 more men than in 1892, and his 137 wickets average only 16. This is a remarkable feat when it is remembered how excellent was the Lord's turf on which Hearne did such good work. He has not many equals as a bowler, and his fine pitch and break with a varying pace have impressed every one. Considering also the amount of bowling he did apart from his county it was remarkable that he kept up his form. He finished brilliantly, taking 47 wickets in the last four matches.

Mr F G J Ford has made a wonderful leap in the batting; last year he scored only 81 in ten innings, while he has this year 736 credited to him and secures second position. Mr A J Webbe, the captain, has done much better than in 1892, and Mr O'Brien and Rawlin have also improved their averages.

Mr Nepean found little time for cricket. Rawlin again bowled successfully, and Mr Stoddart frequently proved a useful change. Middlesex can look back to the past season as among the best they have played.

KENT

Kent started the season well by beating Lancashire at Old Trafford in their first match; but the subsequent play for a time was not so successful. However, in June they again defeated Lancashire and followed this up with victories over Somerset, Surrey and Sussex, which brought them into such prominence that they raised the hopes of their friends.

In the match with Yorkshire at Blackheath they were easily beaten, while the return at Sheffield again saw them defeated. At Lord's they managed to beat Middlesex after an exciting struggle, 12 runs being the margin, and at Brighton yesterday they had the best of the drawn game with Sussex. Their season has been much more successful than in 1892, when, with two wins and nine losses, they shared the seventh place with Gloucestershire, for now they have won six matches and lost only four. They had the large proportion of six drawn games. The rise into fourth position is very satisfactory for the county and was well deserved by their capital cricket.

Mr W H Patterson was not able to play for them so often as last season and his services were much missed. However, the batting comes out well and the figures of the Rev W Rashleigh and Mr J R Mason are very good. Mr Marchant recovered his form to a very large extent, scoring more than twice as many runs as in 1892. Martin, Wright and A Hearne all worked hard in the attack; but the county was unfortunate in having such a fine bowler as Walter Hearne so often away through indisposition.

SURREY

The absence of George Lohmann from the Surrey ranks made very much more difference to the team than people at times were apt to allow. Not only were his batting and bowling missed, but likewise his fielding, while his presence at a time when Surrey were pressed was always invaluable because of his courage and confidence.

The cricket of Surrey all round last season has shown deterioration, and not the smallest cause of their defeats was the faculty the team developed for dropping catches. Herein lay the secret of the long scores of many of their opponents. In such a fine run-getting season the batting averages do not come out so well as last year, when Mr W W Read, who is again at the head, had an average of 40 with an aggregate of 896. This season it is 29. Mr Key has played very well and has scored nearly 300 more runs than in 1892, while his average rises from 18 to 28, which places him second on the list.

The fine all-round work done by Brockwell secures him much prominence both in batting and bowling. Lockwood's wickets have been much more expensive; but Richardson would doubtless have got out his 100 batsmen had an injured hand not kept him out of several matches. The record of 99 wickets for an average cost of 14 is a fine performance, however, for any bowler, especially for a man in his first regular season for his county. Abel in the beginning of the year was much trouble by his eyes; but the affection was removed and he ultimately regained his form.

The Surrey executive can look with plenty of confidence to the future; they possess no lack of young blood, and such men as Hayward (a nephew of the once famous Tom Hayward), F Smith, a left-hand medium-pace bowler, Street and Marshall are all good cricketers. Mr C M Wells, of Cambridge University, was able to help the county in a few of the matches, and his bowling, especially at Catford-bridge against Kent, proved very successful.

The events best remembered by Surrey's friends of 1893 will be the double victory over Nottinghamshire, the fine win against Lancashire at Old Trafford and the success over Yorkshire on the Oval. They also beat Sussex, Gloucestershire and Somerset. Middlesex was the only county to defeat Surrey twice, the other reverses being sustained from Yorkshire, Kent, Somerset, Sussex, Lancashire and Gloucestershire.

Included in Surrey's chapter of misfortunes was the failure of the Oval ground to a very great extent. Good wickets were scarce. The turf had been relaid earlier in the season and the long spell of dry weather gave it no opportunity of settling down before Apted, the ground man, found the important matches thick upon him. Artificial watering was not much aid with the tropical sun on the ground throughout the day.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

The cause that almost wholly contributed to the low position of the famous county of Nottingham was the decline in their bowling. Mee and Shacklock were both very expensive, while Attewell, upon whom the county has now for a long time greatly relied, failed to bowl with his old effect. Flowers and Attewell each took a good number of wickets, but both averaged over 21. It is a big drop of the latter's from 97 for 12 in 1892 to 69 for 21 in the season now closed.

One can understand the feeling of a good many Notts people when they look abroad and find their countrymen helping in the successes of other sides, and oftentimes to defeat the shire of their birth. This year's record of five wins and seven losses looks very bad against their ten wins and two losses which secured to them the second position in 1892.

But while their bowling does not come out excellently the reverse is the case with the batting. Here Gunn has met with wonderful success and is credited with over 1,200 runs and an average of 47; last year he was third with 32. Although this aggregate is larger, Shrewsbury's average is scarcely so good as last summer. Mr Dixon played better than in any other season, while Flowers, Attewell and Barnes all go beyond the 20.

And yet, with all these batting triumphs, Nottinghamshire fared badly. The five victories were against Gloucestershire (twice), Somerset, Lancashire and Sussex. Both the Kent matches were drawn, as also was one each with Yorkshire and Sussex. The losses were from Surrey and Middlesex (twice each), Lancashire, Yorkshire and Somerset.

SUSSEX

The first year of Mr W L Murdoch with the Sussex Eleven has witnessed a great improvement in the county's cricket. Last season they were ninth in the table of results, with only one win against 12 defeats. They have now risen to seventh place with four victories and seven losses.

This advance has been largely the result of the splendid batting of the team. Mr Murdoch and Bean have both scored over 900 runs and have averages of 35, while Mr Brann, Mr Wilson, Marlow and Mr Newham have all played well. The bowling figures show a very different state of things, and the side has had greatly to rely on the lobs of Walter Humphreys, who has taken 122 wickets at an average cost of about 16 runs. No other bowler gets below 30.

Sussex beat Middlesex, Surrey, Gloucestershire and Somerset, and their losses were at the hands of Yorkshire (twice), Kent, Middlesex, Surrey, Nottinghamshire and Lancashire.

SOMERSET

Fortune was not kind to Somerset in the early part of the season. They fared badly, as some other teams do when so much dependence is placed on the aid of amateurs, by not being able [always to] command their full strength. The brothers Palaret were away at Oxford and could not help the county until after the University match, while such good players as Messrs Hedley, Newton, Challen and Hill were not always at liberty to play.

Match after match was lost; but half way through July the spell of ill fortune was broken by an excellent win against Surrey at the Oval, the game being played on a slow and false wicket and the cricket being characterized by the admirable batting of Mr R C N Palaret and Mr Woods. There was very little in the drawn game with Lancashire at Taunton; but Middlesex would no doubt have beaten them had time permitted, while they should have defeated Sussex. However, they finished well, winning three of the last four matches.

Too often, though, their cricket lacked the spirit of other years and especially was this the case with much of their fielding. It may be remembered that the brilliancy in fielding weight pretty heavily in the success which caused, a couple of years ago, Somerset to be made a first-class county. Thus they have fallen from their high position of last year, when their eight victories and five defeats secured them the third place. They are now last but one, with four wins and eight losses. Their victories were over Gloucestershire (twice), Surrey and Nottinghamshire. Yorkshire beat them twice and Middlesex, Sussex, Kent, Lancashire, Nottinghamshire and Surrey once.

The batting table does not compare well with that of 1892: Mr Hewett is still at the top, but his 1,047 runs with an average of 49 last season has given way to 669 (average 31). Mr L C H Palaret has again done well, although he scarcely played with his usual precision in the early matches. However, he ran into form later on, when his batting assumed more of its own brilliancy. Mr Woods did good work, both with bat and ball. The high bowling figures show some trace of the losses sustained in matches; except Tyler's, all the averages are over 20.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Although figuring last in the table of results Gloucestershire have often played excellent cricket, and especially was this the case during May, when, after losing a good scoring match with Sussex by only three runs, they beat Kent and Middlesex. But throughout June, July and the greater part of August they were beaten with a regularity that must have been most disheartening. A victory of much merit last week at Clifton over Surrey brightened the closing days of a very disastrous season.

They have won two more matches than in 1892, but their defeats have gone up from eight to 11.

Their three wins were over Middlesex, Kent and Surrey. Somerset, Lancashire, Notts and Yorkshire each defeated Gloucestershire twice, and the other losses were against Sussex, Middlesex and Surrey.

Dr W G Grace once more heads the batting, with an average of 28, eight runs less than in 1892, and it is a little curious that many of his successes this year have been in the greater matches outside county cricket. There are four other averages above 20; but it is the bowling that leaves Gloucestershire so much at the mercy of their opponents. Mr J J Ferris, the Australian, who was invited into the county in the hope of helping in the attack, seems to have lost his skill as a bowler, while he has acquired the ability of a batsman. Roberts and Murch worked hard, and young Mr Townsend came off very well in the last few matches. None of the bowling averages are under 20.

31 August: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4049.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 1 September, page 9)

The Australian fixture with Nottinghamshire is rather late in the season, yet the visits of the colonial team to Trent-bridge have invariably aroused great interest, and, taking yesterday's large company as a criterion, their popularity would not seem to have decreased.

Play began well, and the brilliant cricket of Messrs Lyons and Bruce was thoroughly enjoyed. Later, however, the game assumed a more ordinary character, while rain came soon after 4 o'clock and put a stop to cricket. Nottinghamshire introduced a new player into important matches in [Hardstaff], of Kirby-in-Ashfield, who has an engagement with the Rawtenstall Club of Lancashire. He bowls left hand medium pace and his form yesterday pointed to the possession by him of considerable skill. The Australians are leaving out Messrs Walter Giffen, Bannerman and Jarvis.

Messrs Lyons and Bruce began the Australian batting shortly after 12 o'clock, and were opposed by Mee and Attewell. Both men adopted forcing tactics and none of the bowling seemed to cause them much anxiety. Forty-three of the runs were scored in 25 minutes and 50 in half an hour. Various changes were made in the attack but without success until 104 had been scored in about 55 minutes, when Mr Lyons was cleverly caught at cover-point. He had hit seven fours, four threes and five twos. On being joined by Mr Trott, Mr Bruce narrowly escaped a return catch to Hardstaff. However, at 127, in trying to pull, he was clean bowled. His runs had taken him an hour and a half to obtain; among his figures were four fours, six threes and eight twos. Mr Giffen soon fell to a catch at wicket, and then Mr Graham, profiting by a life at the hands of Hardstaff (the bowler), and Mr Trott advanced the score to 146 before luncheon.

When the game was renewed two of the Australians were got out without addition – Mr Trott caught at short slip and Mr Graham at wicket, both capital catches. Messrs Gregory and Trumble now became partners, and so successful were they that the 200 went up at ten minutes to 4, or after three hours' play. The good batting continued until 2.15, when the game was stopped because of the bad light. Rain then fell, and after the lapse of an hour stumps were drawn.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 2 September, page 11)

Nottinghamshire's ill-fortune in this match has been very pronounced. By the time their rivals had finished a long innings, the wicket began rapidly to show the effects of the rain and the side was cheaply dismissed on the false pitch, mostly by Mr Turner, who is one of the deadliest of bowlers under such conditions. The result is that to-day Nottinghamshire have a great uphill fight before them, and apparently their only hope is a draw.

W GUNN'S BATTING. – In his second innings at Trent-bridge, yesterday, Gunn increased his aggregate runs in first-class cricket this season to 2,000. The spectators cheered him very warmly upon his accomplishing the rare feat.

Day 3 (report from Monday 4 September, page 5)

Ill-fortune pursued Nottinghamshire in this match at Trent-bridge to the very end. The rain had ruined the pitch by the time that the county's turn arrived to bat, and Friday evening had left the state of the game hopeless for Nottinghamshire, who had lost Flowers and were 227 runs behind in the second innings. The pitch, under the influence of the hot sun, grew more difficult, and 75 minutes sufficed to complete the match.

Gunn and Shrewsbury, the not outs, advanced the score from 53 to 66, and subsequently Shrewsbury played finely until he was caught at wicket. But Mr Turner bowled splendidly and none of the other batsmen could do much with him. Indeed during the morning he sent down 20 overs (ten maidens) for 17 runs and seven wickets, while he had the wonderful record for the match of 13 wickets for 52 runs.

The way in which the conditions changed after the Australians innings inflicted such a handicap on the side that lost the toss as to take a very great deal of interest out of the match. The Australians won by an innings and 153 runs.

31 August: YORKSHIRE v SOUTH OF ENGLAND

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4050.html)

Day 1 (report from Friday 1 September, page 9)

With Yorkshire fully represented and the South of England playing a fine team, the second match of the Scarborough Festival attracted a large company of spectators. The weather delayed the start until a quarter to 1; but the rain had not penetrated far below the surface and the wicket bumped very much. After Wainwright had been badly hit on the head by a ball from Richardson, Mr O'Brien, the Southern captain, refrained from putting on his fast bowlers, while when the visitors went in Mr Smith did not take part in the attack. Altogether play extended over some four hours.

Yorkshire had first innings, but they did not start too well. Although Mr Sellers made 31 out of the first 42 in half an hour and Mr Jackson and Tunnicliffe put on 30, the fifth wicket of the county went at 73, after an hour and a quarter's play. But then came an improvement, and in an hour and three-quarters the remaining batsmen added 153.

Following the luncheon interval there was some fine batting by Lord Hawke, who made 53 out of 68, scored in 40 minutes, for the sixth partnership; his chief hits were nine fours and two twos. Hirst obtained 36 out of 47 in 25 minutes, and finally the innings closed for 226. Humphreys took four wickets before luncheon, but subsequently he was pretty severely punished. In the last hour of the day Messrs Stoddart and Hewett played brilliantly and ran up 90 runs for the South.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 2 September, page 11)

Bad weather reduced the hours of cricket at Scarborough yesterday to such an extent that play could only be proceeded with between a quarter-past 12 and luncheon time. It was learnt in the morning that Wainwright, who was badly struck on the head by the ball, was progressing favourably.

Day 3 (report from Monday 4 September, page 5)

The weather had so much shortened the hours of cricket on Thursday and Friday that at the renewal of this match at Scarborough on Saturday there was scarcely any prospect of the game reaching a definite issue. Yorkshire had completed an innings for 226 and the South had lost four wickets for 176 runs.

Fine weather favoured the last day's play and there was a big muster of spectators. The turf still bumped a good deal and the captains again refrained from putting on such dangerous bowlers as Richardson and Mr Smith, while Lockwood sent down only a few overs. It should be mentioned that Wainwright visited the ground, but the effects of the blow on the head last Thursday had not gone and he will not play either in to-day's match or at Hastings.

When the South renewed their batting Mr Newham was soon out. Indeed, although Mr W W Read played well, the last six wickets went in 50 minutes for an addition of 55 runs. Yorkshire entered upon their second innings with a deficit of five. This time they were put out in two hours and a quarter for 167. The best feature of their batting was the partnership of Mr Jackson and Peel, who in 45 minutes added 58. The Cambridge captain besides making six fours had a single increased to

five by an overthrow. Two or three other members of the side did fairly well.

Less than an hour remained for play so that there was no possibility of the South getting the 163 wanted to win. However, the visitors made most of the time and at the finish were within 88 of victory with six wickets to fall. The game was drawn . . .

To-day the last match of the Festival will begin between Mr Thornton's England Eleven and the Australians.

4 September: C I THORNTON'S XI v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4051.html)

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

Until yesterday Mr A E Stoddart, one of England's greatest batsmen, had not scored a three-figure innings against the Australians in this country. But he has now achieved that feat and on a fiery wicket. Our visitors have had plenty of opportunities of judging of Mr Stoddart's ability in batting, but the illustration of his capacity was never so marked as in this instance, when he ran up 127 in two hours and a half. The six or seven thousand spectators were not slow to show their enthusiasm, and the lack of courtesy with which the Middlesex amateur treated the famous Australian bowlers startled everyone.

Mr F S Jackson, too, again showed his liking for Australian bowling, while Mr Newham played very soundly. It was a wonderful score this 345 of England under the existing conditions. Mr Stoddart is now within 61 of his 2,000 runs for the season, while his feat yesterday gives him first place in the general averages. Splendid weather was experienced. By its constitution Mr C I Thornton's England eleven thoroughly merited its title. Seven of the side had played in the best matches.

With choice of innings Mr O'Brien of course decided to go in, and Messrs Jackson and Stoddart made a wonderfully brilliant start. The latter was quickly at home and settled down to play a powerful forcing game, and Mr Jackson, too, after a few troublesome overs from Mr Turner, also did well. Mr Stoddart devoted particular attention to Mr Giffen, whom he repeatedly drove and cut to the boundary, while he also secured six from him by a drive out of the ground. Mr Stoddart made 38 out of the first 51, but might have been caught at wicket by Mr Blackham off Mr Trumble before reaching his 50. These occupied him an hour and a quarter, but his second 50 runs were obtained in half an hour. Thus he reached his 100 when the total was only 166, while at luncheon the score was 170 and still no wicket down – Mr Stoddart, 104; Mr Jackson, 58.

After the interval, the aspect changed a little. A good catch low down in the deep field disposed of Mr Jackson at 176. The partnership for the first wicket had lasted only two hours; Mr Jackson's 62 was devoid of error and included five fours, a three and nine twos. Gunn came in and Mr Stoddart, having scored 106, was missed in the long field by Mr Gregory. The 200 went up at a quarter past 3, but at 216 Mr Stoddart's great innings was closed by a catch at slip. He had been in two and a half hours and his 127 included a six (a drive out of the ground), 18 fours, two threes and 11 twos.

The Colonials soon got several other men out – Gunn and Mr Smith bowlers and Mr Read caught at wicket. Five for 256. Mr Newham and Peel added 41, but wickets afterwards went steadily and the dismissal of Richardson ended the innings. It had lasted four and a half hours and produced 345. Mr Newham took out his bat for 52, made in an hour and 40 minutes by a five, three fours, two threes, seven twos and singles. The first 100 runs were scored in 75 minutes, the second in 55 minutes and the third in 105 minutes.

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

The 7,000 spectators of yesterday's cricket at Scarborough saw something probably much different from what they had expected. There have been few occasions during this tour when our visitors

have acquitted themselves so well as on this occasion.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 7 September, page 12)

One of the most successful festivals at Scarborough came to an end yesterday, when this match was drawn considerably in favour of the England Eleven. The Australians had achieved quite a feat in securing an advantage on the first innings of 46, after their rivals had opened the match with a score of 345.

Yesterday was in the main occupied by the batting of the Englishmen, who began their second innings at ten minutes past 12 and declared it closed at 3.50; an hour was taken for luncheon. The best point in the day's cricket was the batting of the Cambridge captain. Mr Jackson made 68 out of 119 in an hour and a quarter by ten fours, four threes, a two and singles, and, beyond a very sharp chance in the slips at 45, his innings was free from fault. Messrs Stoddart, Read and Newham, and Peel, all did well, while Mr Newham's 37 raised his first-class aggregate for the season above the 1,000. Mr Stoddart wants only 35 for his 2,000, and as he plays in both matches at Hastings there is every probability of his getting them. Mr Giffen bowled with much effect yesterday.

When Mr O'Brien declared his innings closed the Australians were left with 185 to get to win in 100 minutes. Mr Lyons made 47 out of 61 in half an hour by nine fours, three twos and five singles, but afterwards things went badly for the visitors and finally the game was drawn . . .

7 September: SOUTH v AUSTRALIANS

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4052.html)

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

With the noteworthy exception – the 58 by Mr Hewett – the spectators at the Recreation Ground, Hastings, had almost wholly to be satisfied with bowling triumphs on which to set their interest. The secret of the feeble Australian batting might be found, no doubt, in the fatigue caused by the long journey from Scarborough, although apparently it affected the batsmen more than the bowlers, for Lockwood and Richardson played under equal disadvantages.

The great Surrey bowlers in the course of 80 minutes got out the Australians for 64 runs, any merit in the innings resting with the double figures of Messrs Lyons and Trott. Lockwood was the more destructive and his analysis came out particularly well. It is worthy of note also that during the match the Somerset captain completed his 1,000 runs.

Day 2 (report from Saturday 9 September, page 3)

In its seventh celebration the Hastings Festival has failed to sustain its good name for fine weather. Rain yesterday limited the time of cricket to 75 minutes; but this sufficed to increase the advantage possessed by the South on Thursday night. With the pitch helping the attack it was not surprising to find the home wickets, of which five remained in the first innings, fall rapidly; indeed the quickness with which the end was reached was quite startling, for in three-quarters of an hour the second half of the innings realized only 21 runs. Mr Turner's analysis yesterday afternoon came out thus – eight overs and four balls (six maidens), six runs, four wickets.

With arrears of 83 the Australians went in a second time, and in spite of various good hits by Mr Lyons the score was only 27 for two wickets at the close of play. Although cricket did not begin until 4 o'clock there were a couple of thousand spectators.

Day 3 (report from Monday 11 September, page 12)

The excellence of the cricket in the third day of this match made up for any shortcomings and disappointments that were caused by the wet of Friday. At the adjournment on Friday the Colonials had an uphill game before them, for with two wickets lost in the second innings they had still 56 to secure before their rival's first score was equalled.

Yet the visitors must have gathered fresh hope from the fact that Mr Lyons remained, and the famous South Australian batsman proved quite himself, scoring 75 out of 122 in 100 minutes. The arrears were cleared off at the cost of four wickets. Mr Lyons was the sixth to leave. The only mistakes in a brilliant innings were made after passing the 60, when Mr Ferris, at long-on, and Lockwood, at extra slip, might have caught him. In his 75 were 11 fours, two threes and four twos.

Things now turned badly for the Australians, and the fall of the eighth wicket left them only 54 ahead. As in the England match at Manchester, Messrs Blackham and Turner made a determined effort to improve the position, and so profitable was their stand that 56 runs were added. Thus the total reached the respectable proportions of 193. Richardson had taken 11 wickets for 106.

With the turf helping the bowlers the 111 set the South to win was a task that did not present a very easy course to victory. Mr Ferris's dismissal occurred at six, but Messrs Hewett and Stoddart gave the Australians a glimpse of their great batting skill and in 40 minutes added 66 runs. Mr Stoddart wanted only four runs to get his 2,000 when a good ball from Mr Turner beat him. Four wickets went for 80. But no further mishap occurred, for Dr Grace and A Hearne hit off the other runs and, amid loud cheers, the South won by six wickets.

11 September: NORTH v SOUTH

(See scorecard at Cricket Archive, www.cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Scorecards/4/4053.html)

Day 1 (report from Tuesday 12 September, page 8)

The time-honoured fixture of North v South was resorted to for the second match at Hastings, and on this occasion the strength of the elevens for once merited such a high-sounding title. With Shrewsbury and Gunn away, the North were yet able to muster a fine side, and the substitution of Frank Sugg and Mr Sellers for two cricketers who had originally been included in the selected teams was quite justified. Wainwright's injury at Scarborough was the reason for his absence from the game.

Before giving some details of the play it may be mentioned that the completion of 2,000 runs for the season by Mr Stoddart furnished quite an important incident; thus he has equalled Gunn's feat, while prior to this summer Dr W G Grace has stood alone in the achievement.

On a wicket that gave early signs of being fiery and the condition of which did not materially alter, the North took first innings. Lockwood quickly dismissed Mr de Trafford; but then Albert Ward and Mr Sellers by admirable cricket raised the score from 1 to 72, at which total J T Hearne got the professional caught by the wicket-keeper. Sugg made some good hits before a ball from Richardson dismissed him at 95, while Mr Sellers was caught at point at 104 for a capital 47. The Yorkshireman had been in an hour and a half and his chief figures were six fours, five threes and a two. Five wickets were down for 113 at luncheon time, and afterwards, in spite of the batting of Attewell, the innings finished for 158 at 20 minutes to 4. It had lasted about two and three-quarter hours.

The South began indifferently. Dr Grace had his middle stump bowled down before he had scored, and at 17 Mr Stoddart was caught at slip, while at 39 the dismissal of Mr Hewett and Bean from successive balls made four men lost. However, Messrs Read and Ferris added 79 for the fifth partnership in 50 minutes, and the close of the day left the home team only 31 behind with half their wickets in hand. Mr Ferris, who reached 50 just before the drawing of stumps, has now scored his 1,000 in first-class matches.

Day 2 (report from Wednesday 13 September, page 8)

The wonderful batting feat by Mr Ernest Smith, of Yorkshire, and Mr C E de Trafford, the captain of Leicestershire, in the closing hours of the cricket at Hastings yesterday revived all the interest, which had declined as the South rapidly approached a tolerably easy victory. Mr Smith was a batsman of a very vigorous type in his Oxford days, while Mr de Trafford has always been a most pronounced hitter, and yesterday they were seen to every advantage.

Getting together at 79, when only half their side remained and the arrears had not been cleared off, they converted a losing into a winning game and in an hour and three-quarters added 254 runs. This was a kind of cricket that aroused the spectators to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Before this partnership, however, the five thousand people had seen other good things, notably the play of the old Australian captain, Mr W L Murdoch, whose free and finished game went a long way towards securing for the South a big lead on the first innings.

The cessation of cricket on Monday night had left the South only 31 runs behind, with half their wickets to fall. At first the game went against the home eleven. Mr Ferris failed to improve his overnight position and was bowled for 50, in which were six fours, three threes and four twos. Seven for 132 was a record that promised no very wide difference between the totals; but Mr Murdoch played with remarkable freedom and with J T Hearne added 96 for the eighth wicket. Hearne, who with his figures at 16 might have been taken by Mr Smith in the slips, was finely caught in front of square-leg at 228, after which the last two wickets fell for 23 runs. Mr Murdoch took out his bat for 71; his chief hits were 13 fours, three threes and two twos.

Against their arrears of 93 the North began badly, and in a quarter of an hour before luncheon lost Flowers, Ward and Sugg for eight runs. Subsequently Mr Sellers played well and was ably assisted by Mr Wright. The latter left at 57, and at 79 Mr Sellers was bowled for an excellent 48, included in which were seven fours, two threes and four twos. It was at this stage – viz., five for 79 – that the remarkable partnership between Messrs Smith and de Trafford began.

The deficiency was made good by ten minutes to 4, but when he had scored 16 Mr de Trafford might have been caught by Dr Grace at point. The company did not have to wait very long to see how irreparable had been this error. Bowling changes were fruitless and the batsmen scored at a great pace. Having obtained 94, Mr Smith gave a hard chance to Mr Ferris in the deep field and subsequently Richardson missed him at mid-off, while he ran some risks by strokes in the long-field. Mr de Trafford offered Bean a chance just before reaching his 100. One fine stroke by Mr Smith is worthy of note; it was a straight drive out of the ground. In the last over of the day Mr de Trafford was cleverly stumped on the leg side. His share of the 254 added was 110, in which were 16 fours, three threes and nine twos. Mr Smith is at present not out 144, and the North are 240 on with four wickets to fall. The weather was very fine.

Day 3 (report from Thursday 14 September, page 9)

The excellence of the cricket in the Hastings Festival remained to the end, and yesterday, after a fine attempt to get the 261 in the last innings, the South were beaten by only 25 runs. Tuesday night had found the game so much in favour of the North that few could have thought of such a close finish. However, the North, who had made 333 for the loss of six wickets, completed their innings in 20 minutes for the addition of 20 runs.

Mr E Smith, the not-out with 144, increased his score to 154, and was then caught at third man. His innings was wonderful for its vigour; the 154 had been secured in two hours and five minutes by a six, a five, 21 fours, five threes, nine twos and 26 singles. An instance of such a sustained rate of run-getting is not easily recalled. Mr Smith gave no chance until he was 94, after which he had several escapes.

The South were left with 261 to make for victory, and Mr Stoddart and Dr Grace started the task well. Mr Stoddart scored four fours in one over from Briggs; but when the figures had rapidly reached 36 he lost Dr Grace, caught at slip. Mr Ferris proved a steady partner for Mr Stoddart, who continued to play brilliantly and seemed set for a big innings. At 92, however, he pulled a ball into his wicket. His 63 was the result of 55 minutes' play, and included 11 fours, five threes and four singles.

Things went badly for the South for a time. Mr Hewett played on, Bean gave little trouble and Mr Ferris left at 121 for a capital 36. Messrs Read and Murdoch, however, improved affairs for the

home team and added 48 before the latter fell to a catch at short slip. Lockwood made a few good hits, in spite of which the eighth wicket went at 187. Wood stayed with Mr Read, who strove hard to win the game, and 200 went up at ten minutes to 4. Thirteen later Wood returned the ball, while after Richardson and Mr Read had obtained 22 more the latter was caught at extra slip, and the North won by 25 runs. Mr Read gave no chance in a brilliant 68, in which were nine fours, two threes and eight twos.

The cricket was enthusiastically followed by some 3,000 spectators. During the festival the gross sum taken at the gate was rather more than £900.

Cricketers will with unfeigned regret bid farewell to the season of 1893. In its closing scene at Hastings, a festival grown famous for its good fortune in weather, there were not lacking traits of a summer of almost unexampled brilliancy. The fine batting, the sudden change wrought in the struggle by Mr Ernest Smith and Mr C E de Trafford, and the bold attempt made by the South to recover the lead, with plenty of excellent bowling, were incidents not lost on the spectators of the closing first-class match. And it was fitting that the obsequies of a great departing season should be honoured by much of the flower of English cricket.

While the unusual dryness of the spring placed many groundsmen in difficulties, especially at certain places where new turf had been laid down, good wickets were very plentiful, notably at Lord's. The Marylebone Club in its leading matches with the counties did not secure anything approaching the success which fell to it in the previous year. But what many consider the primary object was attained – i.e., plenty of excellence in the cricket.

With the 36 matches of the Australians dovetailed into the first-class programme, the season was particularly heavy. Our colonial friends, while commanding widespread interest, did not receive the attention devoted to the counties and Universities. The contests within the charmed circle of the favoured nine shires would seem to be every strengthening their hold on the public. Surrey, in a bad year for them in particular, found their supporters as many as ever, while the brilliancy of the Middlesex eleven drew thousands to Lord's.

But outside the counties the cricketing communities have great sympathies. The Universities in May and June were keenly followed; but the Oxford v Cambridge match had disappointment for its characteristic, and the feeble display took all the enthusiasm out of the people who remembered the fine match of the previous summer. Amid all the important games the classic Gentlemen v Players, at Lord's, could yet command great attention. With the Australians here the old-fashioned North v South was a title not utilized so often as in some other seasons.

The general averages for the year are compiled from all matches coming under the category of first-class – namely, the M.C.C. leading fixtures and also those of the Australians, the nine counties, the Universities, Gentlemen v Players and North v South. Foremost in the figures are the aggregates and averages of Mr A E Stoddart and Gunn. It has been a keen fight between these men for chief honours, and there is only a fractional difference between the averages to favour Gunn, while Mr Stoddart has a lead of 15 in the total runs made. Each of them has scored over the 2,000, a feat achieved previously only by Dr W G Grace, who has in four seasons done it, the last time in 1886.

That Dr Grace retains much of his old skill is borne out by the high position he occupies – 1,609 runs in 50 innings (five not-outs) and an average of 35 gives him fourth place. Dr Grace appeared in Gentlemen v Players when he was 16; last July he entered his 46th year. He has fared better than last summer, making nearly 554 runs more and increasing his average from 31 to 35. And it is at such a stage of his career that he has intimated to the Gloucestershire executive his desire to resign the captaincy of the county club, which owed its origin and success to the Graces.

To return to the performances on Mr Stoddart and Gunn, the difference in the styles of the two batsmen may be mentioned. Gunn plays a finished and very often patient game and has a wonderful forward stroke. Mr Stoddart is much more a spectator's batsman. While he possesses exceptional powers of driving, his strokes all round are remarkably strong and he equally excels in style and effect. His greatest feat of the year was his record of 195 and 124 in the Middlesex v

Notts match at Lord's.

The high place of Mr F S Jackson (the Cambridge captain) in the list is not surprising, when his many fine performances are remembered. He scored nearly twice as many runs as last year and his average goes up from 24 to 41. Arthur Shrewsbury, who was first in 1892 among both amateurs and professionals, with 1,266 runs and an average of 42, is once more in a high position and is fourth among those four who exceed 40.

Indeed, the batting figures are full of excellence, and the effect of the fine weather and true wickets is thus plainly shown. Apart from Gunn and Mr Stoddart seven amateurs and five professionals have an aggregate of a thousand or more. Albert Ward was one of the most consistent players of the season, and his 1,435, with an average of 35, is a high jump from his 884 and 25 of last summer. The establishment of a fresh record score at Portsmouth, when the Australians obtained 843 against a weak Oxford and Cambridge side, will also make the season's batting memorable.

Amateur bowling has been much more expensive than in 1892. The table was then characterized by the record of Mr Woods, whose 153 wickets cost 16 runs each. This season Mr Woods has taken 79 – average 23. Mr C M Wells, of Cambridge, who also did some good work for Surrey, comes first. Mr E Smith and Mr F S Jackson both have fair averages, and the latter's is especially creditable when his ability as a batsman is remembered. Among the professionals Walter Hearne stands first; but an injured right hand and subsequent ill-health prevented his playing so often as many of the others. Walter Mead, of Essex, also did well; his great feat of taking 17 Australian wickets for 205 runs in the Essex match at Leyton will be readily recalled.

Ten professionals took over 100 wickets, and J T Hearne, of Middlesex, is far ahead of them with an aggregate of 212. The occasion when last over 200 wickets were secured by an English professional in one season was in 1890, when Lohmann had 220. Yorkshire's bowlers – Peel, Hirst and Wainwright – all have great records, and close behind them in point of average are Richardson, of Surrey, Briggs and Lockwood. Walter Humphreys's lobs have obtained 150 wickets, and Tyler, the Somerset slow bowler, also comes out well. Although Attewell has taken 106 wickets he has been very expensive, and this season's record ill compares with his 151 for 12 in 1890, 153 for 13 in 1891 and 144 for 14 in 1892. The fine weather and true turf naturally affected the bowling figures in general.

[Note: averages follow, divided into amateur and professional, batting and bowling. Full first-class averages for the season can be found at:

http://cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Seasons/1893_ENG.html]

DR W G GRACE'S XI v MR W W READ'S XI (not first-class)

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

DR W G GRACE'S XI 282 (A E Stoddart 25, W G Grace 135, Abel 49; Peel 3/109, Sharpe 4/82) and 56/1 (W G Grace 35*). MR W W READ'S XI 364 (Hayward 34, E Smith 56, W Newham 43, Peel 46, W W Read 112; Brockwell 3/61, W G Grace 3/66). Match drawn.

Day 1 (report from Saturday 16 September, page 8)

The cricket mind is almost perpetually undergoing a keen test of its capacity to hold the good things that occur in the game; but it can never weary of the impressions of Dr Grace's triumphs, and the incidents of his splendid innings at Reigate yesterday will not easily be forgotten. One hundred and thirty-five out of 180 made in 95 minutes was remarkable scoring.

Mr Read had the command of various good bowlers, but Dr Grace, having escaped a catch to Peel at 18, played with wonderful vigour. Thrice he drove the ball out of the ground and he also contributed 21 fours, a three and five twos. His driving was particularly brilliant and the field seemed quite amazed by this free hitting. He went in when three wickets were down at 56 and was the fifth to leave at 236, being caught from a skier at mid-on in the same over that he had driven the ball out of the ground. Previously, Mr Stoddart had made some good hits, while Abel helped Dr Grace to raise the score from 81 to 236. The innings of Dr Grace's team lasted rather less than three hours and yielded 282 runs.

From the way Sharpe's bowling bumped at the beginning of the day, it seemed very probable that the fiery wicket might produce some small scoring; but such was not the case, and when Mr Read's Eleven went in Hayward and Mr Ernest Smith did their best to follow the standard set by Dr Grace, and in the last hour and a quarter of the day 113 runs were secured. Mr Smith made two sixes, seven fours and a three. At present Mr Read's team are 169 behind, with seven wickets to fall.

Glorious weather favoured the play and the spectators were very enthusiastic. Both sides contained many great cricketers, while the fact that Mr W W Read has been closely identified with Reigate further helped to make the fixture a success.

Day 2 (report from Monday 18 September, page 12)

The two day's cricket festival at Reigate came to an abrupt end on Saturday afternoon, about 4 o'clock, when the drizzling rain which had been falling for some time developed into a downpour. But the fact that over 300 runs were scored on the second day shows that the two or three thousand spectators saw plenty of batting, and much of this, too, was of an extremely brilliant nature.

Quite early Mr Newham gave Dr Grace's fieldsmen a pretty distinct idea of his vigour; but after he left the fielding side found Mr Walter Read a far more troublesome rival. The famous Surrey amateur followed the example of Dr W G Grace on the previous day, and from the first moments of his innings his batting was remarkable for its precision and force. It was quite exhilarating to watch Mr Read, and the company grew keenly enthusiastic as he repeatedly got the ball away to the boundary; the drive and the pull do not often receive better illustration than when Mr W W Read is scoring rapidly. He went in on Saturday at the fall of the sixth wicket for 171, and was eighth out at 345 (caught at mid-on) for 112; these had been made out of 174 in 85 minutes, a rate of scoring

only a small fraction below the rapidity with which Dr Grace got his 135 in 95 minutes on Friday.

Mr Read was badly missed by Ayres in the long field when his figures were 81, otherwise his play was free from fault. He drove the ball once out of the ground for six and also obtained 17 fours, a three and nine twos. Peel and Mr Read added 140 for the seventh partnership in an hour and ten minutes. Peel, who was caught at slip, hit five fours and four twos; and Mr Newham earlier in the innings made seven fours and two threes in his 43. Mr Read's side, in which Mr Nightingale was substituted for Wood, owing to the latter's indisposition, were batting three hours and three-quarters for their 364.

Between half-past 3 and 4 o'clock Dr Grace, Mr Ferris and Mr Wright scored 56 in the second innings and then rain caused the abandonment of the match. Saturday's weather afforded a great contrast to that experienced on Friday. The beautiful scenery of the Surrey hills was hidden by mist and sunshine was wholly absent.

Tuesday 2 November, page 11: KENT COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

An important meeting of the committee was held yesterday at the Golden Cross Hotel, West Strand, for the arrangement of next season's programme and to consider the report and accounts. In the absence, through a domestic bereavement, of the president (Sir John W Honeywood) the chair was taken by Mr A Akers-Douglas, M.P. There were also present – Mr George Marsham, Captain Austin, Mr W H Patterson, Mr F S W Cornwallis, M.P., Major-General Denne, R.H.A., Sir Charles Oakley, the Rev R T Thornton, Mr Frank Marchant, Captain Lambert, Mr W B Pattison, the Rev C E Nepean, Mr Manley Kemp, Mr K M'Alpine and Mr J Lancaster (secretary).

In their report the committee congratulated the county upon the high position they reached in the championship; this, too, after a bad start. The record showed a double win over Lancashire, two drawn games against Notts, a win and a draw with Surrey, a win and a loss with Middlesex and, perhaps their best feat in the season, the success over the Australians in the Canterbury Week.

Mr Mason, the Winchester captain, was an invaluable recruit to the eleven, but the loss of Walter Hearne's bowling during a great part of the season had to be deplored.

Financially, the year of 1893 was the most successful in the history of the club with the exception of 1889. There are now 1,084 members of the club, 221 of whom are new. After the adoption of the reports and accounts other business was transacted.

J Wootton, who for several years rendered the county considerable assistance as a bowler and is now engaged at Winchester College, will be given a benefit match, with the choice of any fixture other than those at Canterbury.

Challenges were received from Derbyshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire and Essex; but only one of these could be accepted – namely, Warwickshire, who, with the first-class counties, will be twice engaged; the usual visit to Lord's for the Marylebone match forms part of the programme.

Canterbury Week will include the matches with Warwickshire and Yorkshire. Lancashire and Sussex will play at Tonbridge, Surrey and Middlesex at Catford, Gloucestershire at Blackheath and Nottinghamshire at Maidstone.

Mr George Marsham, Mr W H Patterson and Mr Frank Marchant were appointed to represent Kent at the annual secretaries' meeting at Lord's, and were given a free hand in the discussion that will doubtless occur when Nottinghamshire move the following resolution: - "That an innings may be declared closed at 2 o'clock on the second day; and, if not at that time, then only on the third day."

Monday 20 November, page 7: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY CLUB

A meeting of this club was held on Saturday at Nottingham. Captain Oates said that the committee recommended the arrangement of fixtures with all the leading counties, while for Barnes's benefit a match would be played at Trent Bridge between the county and the Gentlemen of England, the latter being captained by Mr A N Hornby.

Warwickshire had asked for two matches, but if both of these could not be managed Notts might play at Birmingham. Derbyshire's inclusion into the first-class rank was subsequently strongly urged by several speakers. There will be the usual visit to Lord's for the M.C.C. match. The programme was adopted.

SOMERSET COUNTY CLUB

On Saturday, at Taunton, a meeting of this club was held. Mr H T Hewett resigned the captaincy of the Eleven in consequence of his inability to give so much time to county cricket. Mr S M J Woods was elected in his place, and will also assist Mr Murray Anderton in the honorary secretaryship of the club. The accounts showed a substantial balance in hand.

Friday 1 December, page 10: MIDDLESEX COUNTY CRICKET CLUB

Mr V E Walker presided at the annual general meeting of the Middlesex Club, held last evening at the Charing-cross Hotel. There were present Mr A Rutter, Mr G M'Gregor, Mr Harcourt Turner, Mr H V L Stanton, Mr C M Tebbutt and Mr J A Murdoch.

The balance sheet showed that the receipts from the county matches at Lord's last season amounted to £2,530, and the net balance of this sum, after payment of both out and home match expenses, was £1,677. The accounts, on the motion of Mr Stanton, were adopted.

It was decided that £250 be given as a donation to the Marylebone Club for the use of Lord's. An addition £10 was voted for both J T Hearne and Rawlin, whose bowling was invaluable to the county during the season, while to donation of five guineas to the Cricketers' Fund was again renewed. A vote of thanks was passed to the members of last year's eleven.

Messrs A E Stoddart and V E Walker were deputed to attend the secretaries' meeting on Tuesday next at Lord's. Mr A J Webbe was re-elected captain; Mr P M Thornton, M.P., honorary secretary; and Mr J A Murdoch, Lord's Ground, assistant secretary.

The famous Nottinghamshire wicket-keeper Sherwin is to receive a benefit at Lord's next summer, and the Middlesex County Club have generally offered him their match with Somerset for the occasion.

The secretaries of the county clubs of England met yesterday in the members' dining-hall at Lord's for the arrangement of next season's fixtures.

There were present: - Mr H Perkins, the secretary of the Marylebone Club, in the chair; Mr V E Walker, Mr A E Stoddart and Mr C I Thornton, Middlesex; Mr George Marsham, Mr F Marchant, Mr W H Patterson and Mr A J Lancaster, Kent; Mr C W Alcock, Mr K J Key and Mr W W Read, Surrey; Mr H T Hewett, Mr S M J Woods and Mr T Spencer, Somerset; Mr J M'Laren, Mr S H Swire and Mr E B Rowley, Lancashire; Dr E M Grace, Gloucestershire; Lord Hawke, Mr J B Wostinholm and Mr M J Ellison, Yorkshire; Captain W H C Oates, Mr Edwin Browne and Mr W E Denison, Nottinghamshire; Mr H F de Paravicini, Mr W Keen and Mr W Newham, Sussex; Mr C E Green, Mr O R Borradaile and Mr C M Tebbut, Essex; Dr Russell-Bencraft, Hampshire; Mr R H Mallett, Durham; Mr Arthur Wilson, Mr Berkeley Delacombe and Mr F E Leech, Derbyshire; Mr J Bonner and Mr T Burdett, Leicestershire; Mr J Douglas, Cambridge University; Mr H W Bainbridge, Mr W Ansell and Mr G H Cartland, Warwickshire; Mr H E Crawley and Mr C Pigg, Hertfordshire; Mr E G Buxton, Norfolk; Mr F Waters, Cambridgeshire; Mr H M Turner and Mr H Tubb, Oxfordshire; Mr H Thornber and Mr J Horner, Cheshire; Mr J Healing and Mr W F Brown, Bedfordshire; Mr E J Sanders, Devonshire; Mr P H Foley, Worcestershire; Mr F T Higgins and Mr G R Ward, Buckinghamshire; Mr E Roper, Liverpool and District; and Mr S J Crawford, Northumberland.

Dr Anderson, of the West Indies, who was introduced to the meeting, said the clubs in the West Indies were desirous of a visit from an English team during the English winter. On behalf of these clubs, he promised them a warm welcome.

Mr M J Ellison, the president of the Yorkshire Club, then said that he wished to propose for the consideration of the meeting a resolution as to the classification of counties. This was: - "That for the purpose of classification there should be no distinction drawn between the counties who play out and home three days' matches with not less than six other counties." He thought this resolution would do away with a very invidious distinction that had now existed for some years and it would also do away with that "hated word - championship."

Mr Arthur Wilson, of Derbyshire, seconded the proposition. Derbyshire suffered more than any other county from the distinction. In spite of repeated challenges, only the three strongest counties would give them matches; the other six offered as an excuse the lack of room for more fixtures. This position was severely felt by Derbyshire.

After some discussion Yorkshire withdrew their resolution.

Late in the afternoon Mr Ellison once more referred to the classification of counties. He said that although his resolution had been withdrawn the Yorkshire committee would at once take the opinion of every one of the counties that played three days' matches. Their opinion having been taken, they would call a meeting at Lord's for an early day in January, at which the secretary, and one representative in addition, would be eligible to vote. At that meeting it was possible also the question of the appointment of umpires might be raised - a question of vital importance in cricket. He hoped this action would be satisfactory to the counties and that the meeting would determine the question. The decision should take effect in next season's matches.

Mr Alcock mentioned the fact of the visit of a Philadelphian eleven next summer. The programme

would comprise fixtures with the Combined Services, Oxford, Cambridge, Oxford and Cambridge Past and Present, Sussex, Middlesex, Somerset, Gloucestershire, Gentlemen of Ireland (2), Gentlemen of England and Lord Hawke's Eleven.

The meeting then proceeded with the arrangement of fixtures. The list is appended.

[Note: the first-class fixture list for the 1894 season can be found at:

http://cricketarchive.co.uk/Archive/Seasons/Seasonal_Averages/ENG/1894_f_Match_List.html]

