A Cricket Causerie.

SOME RANDOM REMINISCENCES,
OLD TIME CHAMPIONS, and
PRESENT DAY SUPPORTERS.

"Cricket is not what it used to be,"
ambiguously remarked a half and heartily old timer to Tann Court. The statement recalled Douglas Jardine's retort about London Punch. "It never was what it used to be," but Tann Court, being in a severely reverent mood, did not opt it. Nothing delighted the heart of the veteran more than a pitch on old cricket memories as he absently a phantom but told how games were won. One must admit the spirit of true sport which impelled the early cricketers here to play the game under all sorts of difficulties. The wickets upon which they wangled war would put the发展ed hero of today into a rapid recogning mood--in the direction of the pavilion. They were rough old wickets, many of them, where you could "break" a yard or a leg, but it is characteristic of the developed nature of the Britisher that they were persevered with and improved on till today they are of billiards-like brillance. Reference is, of course, being made to the primitive pitch, but even in 1812, when the great G. W. Grace visited London--the wicket was swept and scraped, and two baskets full of stones were removed. The ball could always beat the batsmen in three days, and there is no need to murk at the smallness of the scores. Tann Court, however, does not propose to go into a detailed history of the game in S.A., but to outline principal periods of picture and paragraphs some of the keenest--and these have been made familiar by bat and ball here, together with personal and other information appropriate to the cricket occasion--the third Test match.

Cricket in Australia dates back authentically to 1857 (Sydney), but it was not till 1865 that the first "intercolonial" was played. That was between New South Wales and Victoria, but has been identified with bat and ball here, together with personal and other information appropriate to the cricket occasion--the third Test match.

Mr. H. Y. Sparks
Mr. John Crewe
Mr. J. Pickering
Mr. C. S. Lander
Mr. F. R. Burrows
(Hon. Sec., 1873-74)
(Hon. Sec., 1873-74)
(Hon. Sec., 1873-74)
(Hon. Sec., 1873-74)
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1873-74
An Association Secretarial Quintette.

THE CRITIC.


The First S.A. Team to visit Victoria.

Hang it all, that's not cricket. Mr. Justice Bunyard has the reputation of having made the first century in S.A. This took place at Woodside, and the bat was made of cherry wood. Mr. James Chittlborough, the second S.A. team, played cricket in South Australia for over half a century. There were not only two other clubs here. The Morphett Vale team used to play to both Old North and South Adelaide teams frequently, and in one match Mr. Chittlborough, the youngest member of the team, caught out 9 of the 11 runs scored by the club. For many years Mr. Chittlborough was capable of the Hindmarsh nine-one of the best clubs many years ago--and represented them in the S.A. Association for 17 years. Mr. Chittlborough was one of the trio of Hindmarsh players who challenged any three cricketers in South Australia to a single wicket contest. This was accepted by the Norwood, who were represented by J. E. Gooden, S. Morcom, and T. Cole. It was a most exciting match, and the Hindmarsh men--J. Chittlborough, Frank King, and Holmes--eventually won by one run. The game lasted three days, but the weather saved heavily in this respect.

Mr. "Tom" Cole played with East Suburbs over 40 years ago. This club was eventually merged into the Norwood, but he began his career as a boy with the Young Adelaide team to this park. Mr. Cole was the great fast bowler of his day and his "break" the distinction of being the first man in S.A. to capture 10 wickets in a innings. In this context he bowled nine men, and caught and bowled the batsmen W. O. Grace, when here in 1873, that Cole was shot with the ball before he had come to Australia, and he gave the ball to the Victorian, Mr. Frank King is another cricket identity who was one of the origins of the Hindmarsh nine-one of the best clubs many years ago--and represented them in the S.A. Association for 17 years.

The game was promoted by the Hon. George Coppin, and financed by Mr. W. O. Whitridge, who has been actively associated with the pasting for many years, and in his time was one of the best bowlers and batsmen in S.A. Mr. J. E. Gooden, who retired in 1886, was a champion batsman for many years. He bowled the averages in 1875 with 10,6, and towards the end of his cricket career had the fine average of 100.6. That was in 1875, and in the following year he retired, leaving behind a most palatable record. He explained the first S.A. team that went to Victoria, and in that eleven George Giffen is seen as a mere youth. Mr. Gooden explains that on the evening before a match the players used to go to the wicket and rake it or scrape it, with the water cart in handy attendance. "Ricky to 100 could always be regarded as a winning score in the old times. We always set apart one evening a week for fielding practice," a statement Mr. Gooden, ".if this custom were observed nowadays there would be no contest as to loose fielding in first-class cricket."

Mr. Andrew Scott, who, he said, with his permission for having c1.1
dowed W. O. Grace in 1874, when he bowled the Englishman for 10 in the Adelaide match. Mr. A. B. Langley castled Grace's wicket (so he thought) for 10 and two for 21, while Mr. T. Copeland fired for 20, and four for 32. The city men made 62 and 84, but the Kadina team (of 22) only made 42 and 13. The latter was driven to the Peninsula by Mr. John Hill, father of the S.A. team himself the first to score a century on the Adelaide Oval.