Queen's Park Sporting Gazette
36 Beethoven, London Q.P.





Mr. Sherlock Holmes, Esquire
221 B Baker-street
London N.W.

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Queens 1834

4 September, 1888.

Mr. Sherlock Holmes, Esquire.
221 B Baker-street,
London N.W.

Dear Mr. Holmes,

I am writing to you at the suggestion of our mutual friend, Mr. Quintin Hogg. I am editor of the "Queen's Park Sporting Gazette". One of my reporters, Franklin Kearney, has been missing since Sunday last. Mr. Kearney has been in my employ for the past seven years and has always demonstrated the most conscientious working habits and utmost dependability.

I have gone to the Queen's Park Police, but they claim that they can do nothing until he has been missing for two weeks, unless I can prove foul play. I am of the opinion that some adverse fate has befallen him and I am writing to ask for your help.

I know of nothing he was working on that would present a problem or hazard to him. His last assignment was to cover the Marylebone Cricket Club vs. Players match on Sunday near Wormwood Scrubs. I know that he returned to the office that evening as I found the start of an article on this match.

I am told that you can see the significance in objects that may seem to others to be of no relevance. I have therefore enclosed the contents of Mr. Kearney's desk for you to examine.

I hope you will be able to look into this matter. If I can be of assistance, please call at my office.

Sincerely yours,

Henry Ledgard

Sept. 2. 1888

Wormwood Scrubs Cricket Ground.

The score was progressing slowly when Hargreaves the googlie bowler, was brought on. It was the thirty-ninth over.

Sir Julius Benedict, the batsman, had obviously never experienced quite, the control that this rough coalminer from Yorkshire had over the ball. The first ball landed three feet outside the leg stump, stopped in mid-air, accelerated sideways, pitched a foot outside his off stump, swung violently past the outstretched bat, missing the middle wicket by a coat of varnish. The disgruntled grunt from Hargreaves was heard around the field. The next three balls all moved mysteriously around the bat, barely missing the wicket each time. Sir Julius was looking more flummoxed with each ball. In fact, he was looking downright unsteady. On the sixth ball, his patience and frustration got the better of him. As soon as the ball was out of Hargreaves' hand, he took three paces down the wicket and swung the bat so hard, he landed on his posterior. He sat there, his already ruddy face turning crimson, as the jovial spectators roared with glee. Only due to the fact that the wicketkeeper had also missed the ball was he saved from an embarrasing stumping. At the urging of Knox, the other batsman, he finally rose and staggered to the other wicket for a bye.

The umpire who had been watching the strange movements of Hargreaves' ~~goog~~ googlies with an air of disbelief, shouted "over" and walked over to the square leg position.

The other umpire walked briskly to his wicket, notifying the batsmen and fielders that it was the fortieth over and a new ball would be put into play. He placed the ball into ~~into~~ the hands of Trueman, the fast bowler from Lancashire.

Sir Julius Benedict, after taking another gulps from his water bottle, hammered down some imaginary lumps on the pitch. That last over must have taken its toll as he definitely staggered on his way back to his crease. He finally took his guard only to see Trueman in the distance slowly start his thirty-seven-yard run-up to the wicket, each stride speeding him to bowling velocity. The ball leaving Trueman's hand was a blur travelling at over one hundred miles per hour & appeared to be directed at Sir Julius's head. Somehow he managed to raise the bat fast enough to stop the ball and save his head going over the boundary for six .... There was a flash, followed by a loud bang. The crowd jumped to its feet in disbelief as the ball had exploded, covering the pitch in a cloud of smoke.

Sir Julius, his red face now blackened, picked himself up from the ground laughing heartily, only stopping for long draughts on the ever-ready water-bottle that he kept in his back pocket.

New Balfour Project in Queen's Park

by Christopher Jamison

A reliable source has made it known to this reporter than an announcement will be made public on Monday next concerning a major new development project under the supervision of well-known land developer Mr. M. Jabez Balfour.

The project will reputedly encompass a large, mostly undeveloped area in the northwest section of the rapidly growing Queen's Park suburb, presumably in the area bounded by Dolyle-gardens, Garden-road and High-street. Most of these lands are held by the Lands Allotment Company which stands to gain significant profit through these transactions. Included will be both commercial and residential enterprises, and the development will be on the same grand scale as Mr. Balfour's impressive Tottenham-court Development completed only last year.

Pall Mall Gazette
July 6th 1888.

Check this out, should be of interest.

Queen's Park Development Plans Denied by Balfour

by Christopher Jamison

The rumoured Queen's Park development project reported in this column on Thursday last has been vehemently denied by Mr. M. Jabez Balfour. While Mr. Balfour did confirm that much of the land specified in that article is owned by the Lands Allotment Company of which Mr. Balfour is a major stockholder, he insists that there are no immediate major development plans.

Pall Mall Gazette
July 9th. 1888
Now what?

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MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

V.

THE PLAYERS

Wormwood Scrubs Cricket Grounds
2 September 1888



Umpired by: Sanford Pitman
James Stratford

MARYLEBONE CRICKET CLUB

Byron Anderson
Sir Juilius Benedict
Sir Miller Brandon
Clive Dornin
Lord Goodwin
Colin Kennedy
Jack Knox
Sir Vincent Needham
Lloyd Perkins
Morgan Pickering
David Sadler

THE PLAYERS

Jack Crabb
Philip Daget
John Duggan
George Hamilton
Henry Hargreaves
Graham Milward
Harvey Murphy
James Sebright
Clement Scott
Harry Trueman
Filson Yardley

Umpires: Sanford Pitman
James Stratford

Play will commence at 10.00 a.m.

Luncheon will be served from 12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. We are grateful to M. Jabez Balfour for providing the luncheon.

Tea will be served at 3.00 p.m.

DANIEL OLIVER ESQ.
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