The game of cricket, for almost the first time in its history, is under suspicion; discredit has been cast upon its fair fame, and the sooner the matter is sifted and probed to the bottom, the better it will be for everybody concerned. It has been asserted—we trust without a particle of truth—that recently the betting fraternity of Australia got hold of two prominent members of Shaw's Eleven, and made propositions to them to do their best to lose a certain match for a given sum of money. Matters could not be settled without the assistance of a third English cricketer, who took upon himself to reveal the plot to his captain, and hence a grave cricket scandal was avoided. Of course it will be the duty of the captain to lay the facts of the case before the Marylebone Club directly he returns home, and for the sake of the reputation of the Old Country, all will hope that the matter as reported has been exaggerated. Over-coloured or not, the affair as it stands affords one more instance of the evil of introducing the betting-ring into the sacred enclosure of the cricket pavilion.

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There is no law of contracts in the constitution of cricket save that which has framed itself out of the courteous usage between clubs, yet we hold it as inviolable as any stamped by the seal of authority. And it is because of this unquestioned admission that cricket is so far elevated above those out-of-door sports whose contracts are so often necessarily attested to by witness to make binding. Why then did Trinity College, finding their challenge to Toronto unaccepted, after arranging by their own overtures a game with Parkdale for Wednesday last, throw them over for the Bankers? Did they forget that by so doing they violated the laws of courtesy and fraternity, and that by such a step they left a club in the lurch to arrange as best they could, at the last moment, a match for one of the very few public holidays of the cricketing season?

HE WHO READS MAY RUN.

In that most admirable work, "The Cricket Field," Mr. Pycroft makes the following computation of the loss in an innings of 100 runs from carelessness and bad judgment in running between wickets. Canadian clubs would do well to present a copy thereof to every member, and invite him to read it three times a day before meals, as the doctor says:

1. Singles lost from hits	about	10
2. Ones instead of twos, by not making the former run quickly and turning for a second, but overrunning ground and stopping	"	4
3. Runs that might have been stolen from balls dropped and slovenly handled	"	3
4. Loss from fieldsmen standing where they please, and covering more ground than they dare do with sharp runners	"	5
5. Loss from not having those misses which result from hurrying the field	"	4
6. Loss from bowlers not being ruffled, as they would be if feeling the runs should be stopped	"	7
7. Extra loss from byes not run (with the least "slobbering" the runners may cross—though some play cunning)	"	6
8. From having draws and slips stopped, which long-stop could not stop if nearer in	"	5
9. One man run out	"	8
10. Depressing influence of the same	"	?
11. From not having the only long-stop disgusted and hurried into missing everything	"	?
12. From not having the adversary all wild by these combined annoyances	"	?
Total	"	52
13. Loss from adversary playing better when going in against 100 than against 152	about	?

"Now, though I have put down nothing for four sources of loss, not the less material because hard to calculate, the difference between good runners and bad seems to be above half the score. That many will believe me I can hardly expect; but, before any one contradicts, let him watch and reckon for himself, especially where the fielding is not first-rate."

The above requires no comment save, that among ourselves, the estimate on the first three counts might well be doubled, and most bowlers would probably treble that on the sixth.

STOLEN RUNS.

Lately a sad accident occurred in Edinburgh, by which a boy named Henry Wilson, about six years of age, was killed. The boy had been playing in the Queen's Park, at a short distance from some young men who were playing cricket, when one of them who was batting hit the ball hard, sending it in the direction of Wilson, whom it struck in the side, close to the heart. He was knocked down, and two volunteers who had witnessed the occurrence had him removed to the Royal infirmary, but he died before reaching it. The cricketers decamped as soon as they saw what had happened. It is supposed that death was almost instantaneous.—*Toronto Mail.*

Mr. W. Esson left for home last Tuesday, not to return until after midsummer. By his departure the College Cricket Club loses one of its most promising members. This is the second good player we have lost through sickness, Mr. T. Pardee also being unable to return.—*U. C. College Times.*

In Murdoch's massive score of 321 for New South Wales *v.* Victoria, on 10th February, 1882, were 38 fours, 9 threes, 41 twos and 60 singles.—*American Cricketer.*

Personal.—Mr. D. O. R. Jones, of Trinity College, has sailed for England, where he will spend the summer.

Mr. W. W. Vickers has been elected to the place on the Toronto Committee which Mr. Morrison resigned.

Mr. F. W. Armstrong, of Orillia, is on a surveying expedition in the North-West.

Mr. A. A. Fitzgerald, for some years one of the most active members of the Guelph Club, has removed to London.

Mr. R. B. Ferrie, of Hamilton, will make a trip to England during the summer.

Mr. C. J. Logan having resolved on matrimony, will not be available for any matches played out of Port Hope this season.

CRICKET, AND HOW TO EXCEL IN IT.

BY DR. W. G. GRACE.

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Chapter II.—Batting.

Cricket, like most other games, must be played when you are young, if you wish to excel in it, and a great deal of practice, patience, and good temper is required to become anything like a first-class bat.

It is of the greatest importance for a young player to have proper instructions, and to be shown a good style of batting at the beginning of his cricket career. A correct style and position are half the battle; a bad style is easily learnt, and when once acquired is the most difficult thing in the world to lose.

What constitutes a good style? A very simple question apparently, but one that I find some hesitation in answering. The best advice I can give you is to watch some well-known player, and try to make out for yourself what are the essentials of his excellence. It is in directing your attention to the points you are to look for that I feel whatever value these notes may have will consist.

In the first place, then, play always with a straight bat. If you try to hit a well-pitched ball with a crooked bat, and do not quite time it, you will be bowled out for a certainty, whereas had you hit at it with a straight bat you would have saved your wicket. The reason of this is obvious. Get a friend to hold a bat upright in front of a wicket, and see for yourself what a small amount of the wicket is left exposed; then let him hold the bat across in the style of most bad players, and look at the difference! The first object of a batsman is to protect his wicket, and the straighter he holds the bat the greater is the protection he affords it.