

Huddersfield's Hollow Victory

Linthwaite's Irresolute Batting

Nothing has been more striking in local cricket in this most disappointing season than the rise of Linthwaite, who met Huddersfield in-day in the final of the Sykes Cup. After an indifferent start they have rallied in magnificent style. They had many wickets to-day in the crowd at Fartown. The wicket was on the soft, and the batsmen were early engaged in "garden" the pitch. There was reason for joy from the occasional start.

Eric Jebson, a former Fartown favourite, won the toss for Linthwaite, who were quickly in the "doldrums" and Trevor Sykes and Quarmby opened against Trevor Sykes and E. V. Ward. Quarmby had a single off Sykes's first ball, but there was a big blow for Linthwaite in the first over. Jagger was all at sea from the start, and a little surprise was caused when Sykes completely beat and bowled him with only one run on the board. Jagger had failed to open his account.

The crowd, which was of considerable dimensions at this early hour, had hardly recovered from the shock when Ward, operating from the foot-ball end, bowled Norman Kaye neck and crop—also for a "duck." The second wicket fell at 5, and Henshaw had only just arrived at the wicket when Quarmby was clean bowled by Ward. The score was still 5 as Quarmby retired to the pavilion to ruminate on the wretched stroke he had attempted to assist in his downfall. Jebson pulled Sykes for a couple to leg, and with Henshaw looking more confident it seemed the pair might stop the rot.

Henshaw had the first boundary of the match—a lovely glance to fine-leg, but to the disappointment of the crowd he quickly lost the company of Jebson who was well bowled by Sykes. Thus Linthwaite had four of their best batsmen back in the pavilion with only 14 runs on the board. The story is not yet told for "Jesse" was to follow. Jess had a lovely cut to the boundary off Ward, but when he had reached 13 out of 14 scored by his side he played a fraction too late and was cleaned bowled by Ward with a beauty that must have left the pitch very quickly.

THE SIXTH WICKET

The bowlers were finding the wicket more responsive than in the semi-final game with Elland, but were assisted by some rather irresolute batting. Cotton and Stead helped the score along with a boundary each at the expense of Sykes, but with the total at 29 the sixth wicket fell.

Cotton played a ball very lamely into the hands of Trevor Sykes at about square leg. Cotton was Ward's fourth victim. Garthwaite got the "pro" round to the leg boundary very neatly, and with Stead brought renewed hopes to the Linthwaite supporters.

The first bowling change came at 27, MacNairy going on for Trevor Sykes at the chapel end. The opening bowlers had operated for fifty minutes, and had rendered splendid service for Huddersfield. It is now still some 10, and at three o'clock there would be over three thousand present. At this point Ward had taken four wickets for seventeen runs.

The promised recovery by Linthwaite had not yet arrived and Ward was assisted to his fifth victim by Trevor Sykes standing close in at square leg. Stead, who had scored seven, pulled Ward with considerable power, but Sykes brought off a magnificent catch, and seven wickets went down for forty-two.

FLUXY FOUR

Daphne opened promisingly. He square cut MacNairy to the boundary, and had another fluky four at the same bowler. Then a misunderstanding between the "pro" and Garthwaite ended in the latter being run out. Daphne played a ball from MacNairy hard to the off-side and Jenkinson, fielding at cover point stopped the ball with his foot. Daphne apparently saw what had happened, and did not attempt a second run. Garthwaite however was well down the pitch when the "pro" looked round, and sent his colleague back. Jenkinson whipped in the ball to Briggs, and Garthwaite was well out of his ground when the wicket was broken. It was an unfortunate occurrence and might never have happened.

D. Cotton filled the vacancy and immediately saw Daphne dismissed. He was the third victim of the Trevor Sykes-Ward confederacy. Sykes, taking another neat catch close in on the leg side, Thorpe did not give much trouble. He had not opened his account when he was neatly taken behind the wicket by Briggs, making the Huddersfield "pro's" seventh victim.

Thus Linthwaite were all out at 3-20 for the meagre total of 24 after batting about an hour and twenty minutes. It was a most disappointing display—especially for the Cup Final. Still, tribute must be paid to the splendid bowling of Ward, the Huddersfield "pro" who was in most destructive mood and in a lesser degree Trevor Sykes, who bowled so well at the start and also took three catches for his professional colleague. Ward's analysis is worth setting out in detail. Here it is:

122 overs, 2 maidens, 19 runs, 7 wickets. Sykes bowled seven overs, two of which were maidens for 19 runs and two wickets.

Huddersfield's Reply

The umpires E. North and G. Beard were out again at 3-40, and were quickly followed by the Linthwaite fieldsmen. Frank Greenwood and Albert Sykes opened Huddersfield's reply against Daphne from the foot-ball end and Jack Stead. Sykes hit Daphne's second ball, which was pitched well up, to the off boundary, and placed him to leg for a single off the next ball. Henshaw was applauded for stopping a square cut by Sykes off Stead. A single to Sykes gave Daphne the opportunity of bowling a maiden Greenwood, who opened his account with a single off a no-ball debited to Stead, in the same over Sykes had a lucky shot which fell harmlessly in the slips.

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Stead was no-balled again, and Sykes dispatched the ball to the on-boundary. So far there was no sign of a collapse by Huddersfield. Daphne was bowling well, and the Linthwaite fielding was good, but Sykes square-cut the "pro" to the rails with a fine shot. At 22, scored in as many minutes, Stead retired in favour of Douglas Cotton. Greenwood placed the new bowler to leg for a single, and Quarmby at mid-off kept a certain 4 down to 1 by stopping a hard drive by Sykes off Cotton.

An appeal for lbw by Cotton was answered in Greenwood's favour, and play went on very sedately. At 29 Garthwaite displaced Daphne, and was promptly cut to the boundary by Greenwood, who followed with a 2 off the same bowler.

A NEW BAT

The Huddersfield captain called for a new bat. The weather which had been threatening from the start now cleared beautifully at 4-20, and the sun came out to cause further regrets that the game was destined for such a short existence. Greenwood hastened its end with a boundary through the slips off Garthwaite.

Daphne appeared again to have damaged his bowling hand which was probably the reason why he retired from the attack. The batsmen were in no hurry as indeed they had no reason to be with the time at their disposal, but runs came steadily for the game to drift to its inevitable end.

A four to Sykes off Garside sent up fifty after 47 minutes batting, and brought back Stead for Cotton. The end of this very disappointing final came at 4-35 when Huddersfield gained a hollow victory by ten wickets.

LINTHWAITE

F Jagger b T Sykes	0
E Quarmby b Ward	3
W Renshaw b Ward	13
N Kaye b Ward	0
E W Jebson b T Sykes	2
W Cotton c T Sykes b Ward	5
J Stead c T Sykes b Ward	7
S Garthwaite run out	11
H H Daphne c T Sykes b Ward	10
D Cotton not out	2
C C Thorpe c Briggs b Ward	0
Extras	1

Total 54

Huddersfield

F E Greenwood (not out)	26
A Sykes (not out)	26
Extras	3

Total for no wkt 55

Huddersfield won by ten wickets.

FANNIA

St. J. D. W. Berry

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1. B. Gledhill (Markwell) c out; 26. G. extras

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