

Alderman George Tyson

President of the club in 1902

DO YOU REMEMBER?

King Cross Cricket Club, when, as mentioned last week, they found it necessary to be looking out for a new ground in the year 1900, were fortunate in that, through the kindness of the Ramsden family, they had only to cross the road. But, of course, the new ground was to make, and it takes a lot of work and time to prepare a fine cricket ground like the present King Cross one out of the void, as it were, levelling, laying, wall building, seaming, etc., and the club were fortunate again to be able to play on the old ground till the new one was ready. Season 1902 saw it ready for play, and the official opening was on August 11 with a match against Halifax, fittingly enough.

George Tyson, then Ald. George Tyson, happened to be President of both clubs that year, and, Halifax going in first to bat, he made the appropriate gesture and went in first, complete with pads, sweater and panama hat. Jack Casson, then King Cross captain, bowled an over at him, which he survived, collecting a two to leg in the course of it, and retired with the honours of war.

GOOD CRICKET.

Much good cricket evolved in the game; Dr. Robertson turned out again for Halifax and got 41; he was always interesting to watch, but the best innings was played by Arthur Myers, who got 90; his leg hitting and general on side play being very good. These two got most of the runs, Halifax scoring 178 all out. What with one thing and another, there wasn't time to finish the game, but King Cross looked like winning, for they had got 130 for 5 when stumps were drawn, and Percy Clarkson was going strong, being 47 not out. Percy, as we know, was the second in age of the four brothers and a very fine all-round cricketer, with bat, ball or in the field. Batting perhaps was his strongest point, and what an asset his batting was to King Cross, right away from when he first came into the team until the claims of business took him away to the South.

In cricket parlance, Percy "had all the shots," and was fluent, graceful and powerful with them, and in the years between now and when he left us there were none who acknowledged this more freely than some of the good professional bowlers off whom he took toll. Next week we will recall his record score for King Cross, incidentally part of King Cross's record score. Anyway, the new King Cross ground was well and truly opened. It was remarked how very well the wicket played, considering its newness. It's had some loving care, too, in the years since, and where can you find a much nicer club ground both for players and spectators?—E. C. J.