

CRICKET MATCH.—We should not like to go back with Lord John Manners to the May-poles, monasteries, and Monkhood of the middle ages. However defective our social institutions still may be, we have made too much progress of late years to desire anything like a return to semi-barbarianism: but we do like to see, amidst all the talk about the culture of the moral and religious feelings, some attention paid to the education of the physical frame of the rising generation. The aristocratic students of Oxford, Cambridge, and Eton have donned their woollen jackets, and put their arms to the oar; gymnasia have sprung up in back gardens of every boarding school, and so cricket grounds are rising in all parts of the country wherever you meet with such a congregation of inhabitants as dare to call the place of their dwelling a town. The people are fond of the manly and health-promoting game, and it is pleasing to notice the interest which many of the class above "the people" take in it. The club at Sowerby Bridge, for example, which now numbers about 50 members, is well patronised by the gentry and millowners of the neighbourhood, and though comparatively in its infancy, is in a very flourishing condition. Last Tuesday, a match came off on their ground at Rose Hill, their opponents being eleven of the Mixenden Club. The severe Christmas weather having given place to a more reasonable atmosphere, there was a large concourse of spectators, and towards the afternoon many ladies graced the scene of contest with their presence. The players assembled about eleven o'clock, and shortly afterwards the game commenced, Sowerby Bridge going first to the wickets. The Mixenden men soon discovered that their antagonists were not easily to be "floored," and despite of some good bowling on their side, Sowerby Bridge kept possession of their ground for upwards of three hours, and scored no less than 60 in the first innings. Mixenden then went in, Taylor and Blackborough making capital scores, in spite of the excellent bowling of Clegg, which we may observe, was generally admired. The Sowerby Bridge folks, however, were clever in the field, a point, by the way, which is greatly neglected by provincial cricketers, and no chalks were gained till Skelton and Simpson took the bat, and scored respectively 12 and 17. After Mixenden scored 48 runs, Sowerby Bridge again went to the wickets, of which they kept possession till six o'clock, at which time they had scored 61, with two wickets to go down. The game was then drawn, but Sowerby Bridge had drawn a pretty large score for the Mixenden players to equal, and even though there had been time to finish the game, little doubt could be entertained as to the result. Of course, a return match will be played, for which the cricketers of the district look with great interest. Messrs. Taylor, Blackborough, Skelton, and Simpson, of Mixenden, and Messrs. Hartnett, Hightington, Schofield, and Sutcliffe, of Sowerby Bridge, deserve great credit for their style of batting; nor must we overlook the exertions of the able and active secretary to the club (Mr. C. W. Fielding), who greatly contributed to the successful issue of the match, both by his conduct at the wicket and in the field. The Sowerby old brass band was in attendance on the ground, and played a variety of popular airs at intervals during the game. In the evening the players dined together at the Royal Hotel, where a very pleasant evening was spent. The following is the score:—

SOWERBY BRIDGE.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
J. Horwood, b Wilson	1	b Varley	7
J. Clegg, c Taylor, b Varley	5		
J. Clegg, b Sutcliffe	0	not out	4
J. Sorby (run out)	2	run out	0
J. Sutcliffe (run out)	4	c Wilson, c Varley	5
G. Hightington, b Varley	10	b Sutcliffe	4
J. Hatcliffe (not out)	3	b Sutcliffe	5
C. W. Fielding, c Ambler, b Sutcliffe	18	b Sutcliffe	5
C. Schofield, c Simpson, c Varley	0	not out	11
C. Hartnett, c Skelton, b Nelson	1	b Nelson	22
J. Stobart (run out)	12	run out	1
Wyds	13		3
Byes 4, Leg byes 1	5	Byes	2
	60		61

MIXENDEN.

FIRST INNINGS.	
T. Taylor, b Hightington	11
W. Blackborough, c Clegg	11
S. Hoyle (run out)	0
J. Wilson, sep., (run out)	0
J. Wilson, jun., c Stobart, c Hightington	0
S. Sutcliffe, l. b. w. b. ditto	0
J. Skelton, c Stobart, b Hartnett	12
H. Simpson, b J. Sutcliffe	17
W. Ambler, b J. ditto	0
J. Preatley, c J. Clegg, b Hartnett	2
J. Varley (not out)	0
Byes 3, Leg byes 2	5
	60