

AN EXCITING FINAL.

FLOCKTON DEFEAT CRIGGLESTONE BY ONE WICKET.

There was an exciting match, witnessed by a large number of people on the Emley Clarence ground on Monday, when Crigglestone and Flockton were the opponents in the final of the Knock-out Competition run in conjunction with the Denby Grange and District League. Crigglestone, batting first, scored 111, and they looked like victors, when Flockton lost their ninth wicket for 101. But there is many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip, and Flockton's two last men remained together to score the necessary runs for victory.

Crigglestone started very disastrously, and they lost three of their principal batsmen with only five runs on the board. A useful stand, however, was made by J. Froggatt and L. Sykes, and the next wicket did not fall until 45 runs had been scored. The innings closed for 111, W. Stephenson batting splendidly for 36 not out.

Flockton started their venture with plenty of confidence, but they soon found that runs were not easy to get, and there was much uneasiness amongst their supporters when half of their side were out for 53. Hy. Dodgson had batted well for his 24 runs. It was left to G. H. Wood, the former Wakefield Yorkshire Council player, to come to the rescue. Going in at a very critical period, he played a fine defensive game, and waited patiently for the balls which wanted hitting. When eight wickets had dropped 84 runs had been registered. R. Dodgson and Wood carried the score to 101, when Wood, who was having a "go," was well caught by Froggatt. Stacey was the last man in, and things were looking rather black for Flockton, but both batsmen played very steadily, and as runs came one at a time the score mounted to 108. The excitement became very intense. Stacey, who was batting well, faced White, and the third ball of the over he sent to the boundary for four and thus gave his side the victory and the shield. W. Stephenson was in good bowling form, and in 21 overs which included seven maidens, he took six wickets for 23 runs. The Flockton supporters, uneasy for a considerable time, gave vent to their feelings as soon as the match ended. Scores:—

Crigglestone—A. Crowther b Walker 1, W. White b Mountain 6, G. Wilkinson b Mountain 9, J. Froggatt c H. Dodgson b Wood 17, L. Sykes c Stacey b Wood 19, P. Henton b Wood 12, E. H. Sykes c Cook b Howitt 4, E. Wilkinson b Stacey 3, W. Stephenson not out 36, R. Bishop b Walker 8, W. Wood b Walker 0, extras 7, total 111.

Flockton—A. Dodgson b Stephenson 5, Hy. Dodgson c Wood b Bishop 24, G. Cook b Crowther 11, P. Woffenden b Stephenson 12, G. H. Wood c Froggatt b White 22, A. Howitt b Stephenson 0, A. Bend b Stephenson 1, T. Walker c Crowther b Stephenson 5, H. Mountain b Stephenson 8, R. Dodgson not out 10, R. Stacey not out 9, extras 5, total for 8 wickets 112.

PRESENTATION OF THE CUP.

Immediately the match was over the spectators congregated near the pavilion, and Mr. J. H. Senior (Crigglestone), the Chairman of the League Committee, presided over the presentation ceremony. Mr. Senior said they had witnessed a very exciting match, which he was pleased to say had been played in a fine sporting spirit. The Denby Grange League this year during the competition had made an innovation by suspending the innings after one side had scored a certain figure. It had proved a beneficial change, both sides getting a fair share of light. Under the old regime, the side which won the toss usually sat on the "spice" until it was nearly dark, and then when their opponents batted it was usually dark, and the team very often appealed for bad light. Then it was left to the umpire—and sometimes their decision was satisfactory, and some times it was not. He remembered in one match, in which he himself played, when his side appealed for bad light, their appeal was turned down, and at the same time the street lamps outside the field were lit. (Laughter.) He was pleased to see so large an attendance, but on the other hand he was sorry his team (Crigglestone) was the losing side, as it was the first time they had appeared in the final for this shield. He congratulated the winners on their victory, and then called up his daughter (Miss Senior) to present the shield to the winning team.

In a neat little speech Miss Senior presented the cup to Mr. Arthur Dodgson, captain of the Flockton team, amidst loud cheering.

Mr. Dodgson said his team had played well, and the better team had won, although he extended sympathy to the Crigglestone team who had played well, and seeing they were one of the teams in the top four of the league he wished them every success.

Mr. Archie Crowther, captain of the losing side, said his team had been in that same position before. They also had been on the winning side. He was extremely sorry that one of their players—W. Stephenson—was on the losing side after his display that day, both with bat and ball.

The winning side each received a canteen of cutlery.

Immediately afterwards, Flockton players made their way home in their conveyance, with the shield in front. At the top of School Lane, Flockton, they were met by the local Brass Band, who played the team to the winners. Here three ciders were given for the winners, and in return three sheeps for the Band. Later in the evening the Band again played the victors through the village.

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Scores:—
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THE FLOCKTON CRICKET TEAM.

Presented to

MR JOSHUA HAIGH. (PRESIDENT) NOV 1935.