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CRICKET—THE MARSDEN MECHANICS' INSTITUTION CLUB, AND THE HOLTHEAD MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY CLUB.—On Saturday afternoon last Eleven of the Marsden Mechanics' Institution Club, and Eleven of the Holthead Mutual Improvement Society Club, had a friendly match at Cricket on the ground of the former at Marsden. The Marsden club has only been very recently established, and this was its first match. The Holthead men went first to the wickets, and closed their first innings with a score of 35. The fielding of the Marsden men in this innings was only indifferent. Marsden then went to the wickets, Thorp and Garside taking the bats. The slow bowling of J. Wood which for some reason unintelligible to outsiders was termed "shoddy bowling," seemed something novel and perplexing to the Marsden players. Thorp one of the crack batsmen was bowled out by Quarmby without making a single run, and the prospect did not look very promising at the start. They soon however recovered their ground, and concluded their innings with a score of 40, despite the superior fielding of their opponents. The Holthead men now went in for their second innings, but their career was very brief. Their antagonists had now fairly warmed to their work, and showed a great improvement upon their previous fielding; while the capital bowling of Howarth, and Thorp, made sad havoc with their stumps. The bowling of Howarth was very destructive. In this innings, Holthead scored 18. It is but justice to add, that three of their best players were unavoidably absent. Marsden now went in for a second innings, sending Taylor and Thorp to the wickets, who quickly run up a score of 14, which gave the victory to Marsden, both men coming out with their bats, without the fall of a wicket. The batting of Taylor, Garside, and Thorp was good, as well as the bowling of Thorp and Howarth. The latter though a young cricketer, is a promising bowler. Altogether, this opening match showed that with care and practice, the Marsden Club possesses the right materials for making some excellent players. There was a large attendance of spectators on the ground, who manifested much interest in the game. The following is the score:—

HOLTHEAD MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
W. Wilkinson, run out	3	b Howarth	0
D. Wood, b Howarth	2	b Howarth	1
G. Carton, b Thorp	1	b Thorp	2
S. Wilkinson, b Howarth	2	c Kershaw, b Thorp	4
F. Wood, c Kershaw, b Thorp	0	b Thorp	4
S. Garside, c Taylor, b Thorp	4	b Howarth	0
J. Wood, l b w, b Thorp	3	not out	2
J. Wilkinson, b Thorp	0	c Stockwell, b Howarth	0
T. Quarmby, b Howarth	4	c Tinker, b Howarth	4
J. Quarmby, not out	4	run out	0
C. Wood, c Garside, b Thorp	3	b Thorp	0
Byes 6, leg byes 2, wide 1	9	Wide 1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

MARSDEN MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
H. Garside, run out	10	not out	5
S. Thorp, b T. Quarmby	0	not out	7
E. O. Taylor, touched ball	10		
A. Tinker, b D. Wood	6		
J. Stockwell, b J. Wood	1		
W. Waterhouse, c J. Quarmby, b D. Wood	7		
F. Middlemost, b J. Wood	0		
J. Carter, b J. Wood	0		
J. Kershaw, c J. Wilkinson, b J. Wood	2		
M. W. Howarth, c F. Wood, b J. Wood	0		
T. Holroyd, not out	2		
Bye 1, no ball 1	2	Bye 1, wide 1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>

Umpires—Robert Wood, David Firth.