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AUSTRALIANS FOLLOW ON AND ARE STILL 104 BEHIND

AN INTERESTING POSITION.

ENGLAND BREAK LONG RUN OF NON-SUCCESS?

TAYLOR THE STUMBLING BLOCK.

GRIM STRUGGLE TO AVOID FAILURE BY AN INNINGS.

Unless the remaining six Australian wickets realise 105 runs to-day, an innings defeat in the fourth Test match at Melbourne will be their lot. England compelled them to follow on to-day, the five remaining wickets only adding 101 to the overnight score of 168. J. M. Taylor was the most successful batsman, scoring 86, and he alone proved a serious stumbling block in the second venture. But for him England might already have recorded their first Test triumph for four years.

The best prospects of breaking the long run of non-success in international cricket are extremely bright at the moment, and we are thus once again on tiptoe with excitement awaiting news from Melbourne.

SCORES TO DATE: ENGLAND, 548; AUSTRALIA, 269 AND 175 FOR 4.

Following the rain victories, the rubber won, and was compelled to follow on, for the fourth Test contest. That at Melbourne to-day, and England declared a team with such towering stature, but when Taylor and Kilner came with them, proceeded to make conditions the crowd of 30,000 at Melbourne, Woolley, Hearne and Woolley, the first performance in the last Test and run out Australian wickets in quick succession. Hendren and Hearne were made to pay dearly for the lapse, and Andrews taken at short leg after having been top scorer with 86.

Then Gilligan came to the crease and Taylor together for the last wicket, and put on nine runs in comfortable style. Gilligan's first ball was a beauty, and appeal against his decision at the crease an hour later.

CONDITION OF THE WICKET STATED TO BE IMPROVING.

Australia took advantage of 279 Gilligan runs, and, therefore, all of asking the Australians to follow on.

Woodfull opened the batting to the bowling of Tate, and Kilner, who had taken the place of Kilner, and Collins was well caught by Hearne off Kilner's third delivery.

Bardsley, the left-hander, batting order after Collins's dismissal, display, came in next and was soon scored when Tate bowled him for a duck.

Ryder became associated. Taylor after unconfortably, and after being nearly head high compelled to stand well back to the wicket.

A commendable enterprise from Ryder, and driving with freedom Tate to Taylor's 16. The scoring Kilner failed to add to his disappearance at Tate's end for 24.

Ryder fell when, in attempting to Tate, he was deceived and hit into the hands of Sutcliffe at Kilner, fearless cricket for 86 minutes, and showed Taylor, who was playing the pair advanced the Australians, with 4 required to save the innings defeat.

Ryder had the wicket had Tate the bowling of Tate and Kilner steady, and the Australian total was displaced Tate and Kilner, who, after having scored 24 in the way of a Kilner's third delivery.

Gregory, after steadily placing himself in, Woolley gave way to Gregory Taylor off-theory, and Kilner the result of two Taylor off-theory, and Kilner the crease.

Gregory, against him for Kilner, the umpire, Taylor stood up Tate and the Australians, Gregory another 20 minutes.

Gregory batted in both innings. Gregory one wide and Woolley, Mailey and Collins each one wide, and Ryder one no-ball.

Following this Woolley was punished for no fewer than 11 off the bat and 3 byes in one over. These tactics caused Kilner to spread his field out deep, and against Gregory he had Sutcliffe, Hendren, and Chapman on the boundary.

GREGORY'S TWO "LIVES."

The second century appeared after three hours and four minutes play. Gregory showed his usual dashing method, which were not without some risk, and he was lucky to survive when he was missed at mid-on, which the fieldsman dropped. Woolley was the bowler to suffer.

The big fast bowler then drew cheers by smashing Woolley hard to the leg boundary. At 220 Kilner was given a favour of Hearne, and the Middlesex man had an early misfortune, Gregory, with his score at 36, again being missed, this time by Woolley on the slips.

He demonstrated his appreciation of this second life by sweeping Kilner's next delivery to the Hendren and the partnership had put on 72 by lively cricket when Taylor was taken by Hendren at slip, and Gregory left an attractively compiled 95. He played forcing cricket all through, hitting hard and crisply to both sides of the wicket, and only clearing the boundary on nine occasions. He batted altogether for two hours and eighteen minutes.

LESS THAN HALF ENGLISH TOTAL.

With Oldfield in Gregory was cheered for some vigorous work, which included a lovely on-drive for 6 off Woolley.

Kilner came back at Hearne's end at 257, and with his first delivery he got Oldfield taken in the slips by Chapman. He had thus taken three out of the four wickets which had fallen to-day for 12 runs.

Mailey came in for the last wicket, and Hearne was tried again in place of Woolley at 325, but the pair held out until lunch time when they had taken the total to 366. Mailey being 4 and Gregory 37.

Kilner and Hearne bowled on the resumption, and Kilner his first delivery the latter secured Gregory's wicket through a catch by Woolley in the slips, and the score had taken the last four minutes, of four hours, closed for 269, less than half the English total of 548.

Gregory batted courageously for his 38, which he scored in an hour and a quarter, hitting a 6 and three 4's.

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