

**MARCH 18, 1921.**

**MILDENHALL CRICKET  
REMINISCENCES.**

The writer's memory goes back to about 1870, at which time the game was played on the Heath, half a mile out of the town, and great doings there were at times. A whole day's match, with lunch (supplied by Mr. Booty, of the Bell Hotel) was of frequent occurrence, and several townspeople looked forward to a day's enjoyment on the Heath, no doubt a very healthy spot, although, it used to be said sometimes "Mildenhall can't play after lunch." The 2s. 6d. lunch was a great feature. Mr. George Isaacson and others were constant patrons. Two events occur to my mind—one that of my father running out and catching a "skier" with his left hand, and the other a cut over the ditch by a Mr. Jones with his right hand, using a non-spliced bat.

About 1876 a new ground was secured in a meadow by the river side, beyond the mill, the heath being thought too far away. The new ground, however, proved too swampy, and after a lapse of some years a return was made to the Heath.

About 1898 the club was re-formed, with the Rev. H. B. Woolley as hon. secretary and treasurer. During this season J. Jaggard was presented with a bat for his fine bowling average. From 1898 to 1902 J. Jaggard and H. Williams were prominent bowlers, the former once taking 7 wickets for 5 runs against Lakenheath, and the latter 6 wickets for 10 runs against Thetford Grammar School.

1900.—Cricket came to grief this year. The following year Mr. J. H. W. Oxlade came to the rescue. By his efforts in canvassing the town and getting subscriptions the club was re-started in the meadow at the top of St. Andrew's Street, and a new pitch was laid with turf from Great Barton, given by Sir Henry C. J. Bunbury.

In 1903 Davenport bowled well, taking six wickets for 11 runs against Isleham. At this time R. N. Hincks was a good bat, once scoring 68 against Isleham, the highest score for that year. Two matches against Bury and West Suffolk took place in this year. In the first match Mildenhall received a big thrashing, making only 44 against Bury's 253; the two Lakes made 132 between them. Mildenhall, however, had the satisfaction of winning the return, making 120 against Bury's 90. In this match H. Lake was caught by me for 3, and Lake caught me for 6, both first wicket. F. S. Ireland took 4 wickets for 9 runs. I had a busy time at point, my usual place, catching three and narrowly missing two others. Three Irelands played in the match, and were a great help to the club for some time.

**MILDENHALL,**

Via Bury St. Edmund's,

**SUFFOLK.**

1904.—Against Thetford Pavier obtained 4 wickets for 12; and Sutcliffe scored 45 runs; v. Fordham, Sutcliffe 67 (average for the year 29); v. Newmarket, F. S. Ireland 31, Sutcliffe 31; v. Elveden, Sutcliffe 6 wickets for 14 runs, and scored 48, and 49 against Chippenham, and took 5 wickets for 21; v. Brandon, G. H. Ireland 41, Thorpe 4 wickets for 31; v. Exning, G. H. Ireland 6 for 19—(Mildenhall 69, Exning 66)—Newmarket 177, Mildenhall 32. Bury and West Suffolk 253, Mildenhall 62 (Penfold 124 and 6 wickets).

1905.—The Rev. F. E. Sutcliffe came to the fore as a strong batsman, making 64 against Bury United, his average for the year being 33.7. This year saw the first professional employed by the club in F. Warnes. In a match v. Bury United Mildenhall won, declaring at 120 for 3 wickets. Against Fordham Warnes took 5 wickets and Barwell 5 wickets. Bury and West Suffolk again beat Mildenhall 253 to 62. Penfold, their pro., made 124 and took 6 wickets.

1906.—Against Fordham, Warnes again took 5 wickets, while Sutcliffe had the other 5. In the second match at Fordham Warnes secured 8 wickets for 9 runs, and in the return the brothers Thorne had 9 wickets between them. They did the same in Mr. Pavier's XI.

1906.—v. Isleham, Pavier 5 wickets; v. Brandon, Warnes 7 for 26, and scored 27 runs; 2nd innings, Warnes 6 for 32, and Sutcliffe 4 for 30; v. Exning, Warnes 3, Ford 5 wickets, Warnes 45 runs; 2nd innings, Warnes 7 for 42; F. S. Ireland 47 runs; v. Thetford, Warnes 7 for 41, and scored 41; 2nd innings, F. S. Ireland 41 not out; v. Newmarket, Sutcliffe 45; v. Exning, 104; Mildenhall 103 (Whitmore 32 and 24); v. Herringwell, H. Williams 7 wickets and 32 not out; Allinson's XI. v. Pavier's XI, Pavier 8 wickets; v. Bury United, F. S. Ireland 45, Thorpe 32.

About this time Pavier and Thorpe were very useful with both the ball and bat. In 1907 Mildenhall declared 126 for 3 wickets at Soham, the latter scoring 25; Davenport had 7 wickets for 5 runs, and Thorpe made 67 not out. Lawton was now the professional, and, like Warnes, he did good execution with the ball. Against Bury Y.M.C.A. he took 5 wickets for 9 runs, and at Herringwell 7 for 5.

In 1908 and 1909 Simmons was the professional, and he proved the best all-round man of the six pro's. Against Fordham he had 8 for 17 1st innings, and 7 for 14 2nd innings. Against Bury Early Closing 7