

had everything in their favour, and have batted first, they have not made the best use of their opportunities. Had they done so, considerably fewer drawn games would have resulted. The first test match at Nottingham should have ended in a victory for the visitors. They won the toss, but played painfully slow cricket on a splendid wicket, and at the end of the first day's play, had only scored 238 runs for the loss of eight



MR. VICTOR TRUMPER.

wickets. In many subsequent games the batting was too cautious at the start to prevent any other conclusion than a draw. Such apprehensive exhibitions cannot be satisfactory either to the players or the spectators. Mr. Jack Worrall has proved himself the best batsman of the team on a wicket not absolutely in first class batting order. At times he has veritably saved his side from disaster, and of another old stager, Mr. Hugh Trumble, almost the same can be

said. Mr. Worrall has, on several occasions, gallantly led a forlorn hope and succeeded, while Mr. Trumble's dogged pertinacity has, more than once, extricated his side from an apparently hopeless position. Mr. Darling has batted up to his best form, and bids fair to gain the highest figures in both average and aggregate. But, singularly enough, he has, contrary to past custom, done best when other members of the team have batted well. As a rule Mr. Darling shines most brightly when affairs are against his side, but, during the English tour, he has relegated the position of saviour to Mr. Worrall, and gone in for consistent scoring himself. Mr. Clem Hill had the misfortune to be in the doctor's hands for some considerable time, and his absence from many matches was no doubt severely felt by the team. Mr. M. A. Noble and Mr. Victor Trumper have come out of the ordeal on English wickets with flying colours. Mr. Noble has proved himself to be one of the best all-round cricketers of the day. In batting he takes a very high position for his defence has been almost impregnable, and he has shewn a great capacity for making runs. Mr. Trumper has not failed those who estimated his abilities very highly. Young as he is, he has batted most brilliantly, and is rightly regarded as the coming rival to Prince Ranjitsinhji and Mr. Clem Hill. Mr. Iredale and Mr. McLeod have not had the best of luck, though both have put in brilliant finishes. Mr. McLeod, by his sterling play in the last test match, heads the averages in the representative games. He only played in that one test game and he certainly struck form. In scoring 108 for once out he completely justified his inclusion. Mr. Laver has done well on a few occasions, but, on the whole, has not batted up to his best form. Mr. Syd. Gregory has had a very successful time, taking his batting right through, and has been as brilliant at cover point as he ever was. Messrs. Kelly, Jones, and Howell have, on occasions, batted in first class style, but once only did the latter give an exhibition of his lightning-like scoring ability.

The bowling of the Australians has been skilful and able enough to make the tour