

# **The Forgotten Philadelphians**

## **The Pilgrims' Tour in England, 1921**

**Stephen Musk**



In 1921, a side known as the Philadelphia Pilgrims crossed the Atlantic and played 12 fixtures, albeit none of first-class status. If referred to at all, this tour is written off as an irrelevant, alcohol-fuelled jolly made by a bunch of ageing has-beens. This book, which includes match reports and scorecards of all the fixtures, aims to redress the balance. The Pilgrims played against all-amateur sides of a

high quality and were successful on the pitch, winning five and losing just two of their matches. An analysis of the tourists' performances in domestic cricket indicates that the squad was representative of the best Philadelphia had to offer at that time and it is argued that the visit should be considered as a *bona fide* tour of importance, even though it originated from a part of the world where cricket was on its last legs.

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