

## Match Report

THE CITIZEN, MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1900

### **ENGLAND v. WALES**

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**THE GAME**

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**A STUBBORN FIGHT**

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**BRILLIANT VICTORY FOR WALES**

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**SUPERIOR COMBINATION TELLS ITS TALE**

England won the toss, and Wales started from the Worcester Street end against the wind. For getting in front of the ball Wales were penalised, and a scrum was ordered at the centre. Heeling out by the English forwards gave Marsden possession, and he started a smart run, which gained England some 20 yards. The Englishmen got off again immediately afterwards, and Marsden passing to Jarman, the Bristol captain made further headway. A transfer to Cooper looked to give the Devon crack an opening, but the pass went wide, and the ball rolled into touch. Out of some loose play Llewellyn kicked down the field and the ball was rushed into touch in the English 25. Coming away with a superb burst the English forwards rushed right down to Bancroft, but the Welsh captain saved in marvellous fashion, and punted well beyond half-way. A passing run by the Welsh backs looked promising, but Llewellyn failed to gather. Gamlin kicked into touch. A loose rush by the Welsh front rank was further assisted by a capital cross-kick by Llewellyn, but Brettargh made his mark and found touch just outside the English half. Twice in quick succession the Welsh backs brought off

**A MARVELLOUS BIT OF PASSING,**

but in each instance the transfer to the wing man went wide. Ensuing play was well-contested in the English quarter until a magnificent rush, headed by Jarman, brought the ball to Bancroft who was tackled before he could reply. At this juncture, Hellings had a finger knocked out, and there was a slight cessation of hostilities. On resuming the Welsh forwards carried several scrums in grand style, and some misfielding on the part of the English backs nearly let the visitors in, but Brettargh and Gordon Smith saved cleverly. Useful punts brought relief to the Englishmen, but Lloyd with a clever kick found touch well inside the English 25. England came away with a smart dribble, and some wild passing by the Welsh pack enabled the Rose representatives to reach the centre. A grand wheel by the Welsh pack regained the lost ground, and for off-side play England were penalised. Bancroft had the ball placed for him, but a fine effort fell short, and Marsden punted out to touch. Ensuing play was vigorously contested in the English 25, the Welsh forwards attacking with great persistency. England defended well for a time, but at length from a sure and determined rush the ball was carried over the line and Hellings

**CREDITED WITH A TRY**

amidst tremendous cheering. Bancroft landed a fine goal, and the cheering was redoubled. England resumed, Bancroft replying to the kick-off with a fine kick into touch beyond the centre. Here Lloyd started his backs in motion, but little ground was gained, George Davies failing to handle. Then a marvellous bit of work by the same player sent the ball to Gamlin, who replied with a splendid left-foot kick into touch at the centre. The English forwards once got away very nicely, but they were checked

by Lloyd and Llewellyn in succession. Beautiful wheeling by the Welsh forwards gave the Englishmen a good deal of anxiety, but mistakes by the visitors at the critical moment saved a score. Play for the next few minutes was wholly confined to the English half, and a grand movement initiated by Lloyd promised well, but Davies' pass to Trew was missed by the wing man. The little Swansea player, however, got back and saved finely. The Welsh forwards were proving considerably stronger in the scrum, and the ball came out much more frequently on their side. Taking advantage of a miss by Cooper, Llewellyn secured and made a strong run down the touch-line, but his pass inside went astray. At this point the English forwards got possession and gave Cattell a chance but the Blackheathen passed wildly, and the movement lost ground. The English front rank were next seen to conspicuous advantage. With

#### A SUPERB LOOSE RUSH

the ball was carried some 30 or 40 yards before Trew managed to carry it into touch near his 25. The Welshmen retaliated, but one of their players getting off-side England were awarded a penalty. Gamlin had a shot for goal from near half-way, but his attempt, though a grand one, went wide. Bancroft did not touch down but ran and punted out to beyond the quarter flag. From this point the ball was kicked down to Gamlin, who mis-fielded and then slipped. Before he could recover himself the Welsh forwards were on him. Blake took the ball out of his arms and started a round of passing, but the referee had the game back. We were now treated to a bit of passing by the English backs, and Gordon Smith punted into the Welsh twenty-five. The visitors soon worked out, but England were playing much better now and kept play in their opponents' half. Cooper made two marks in quick succession, which enabled England to keep up the pressure in the Welsh quarter. A useful kick by Lloyd at length brought relief to Wales, and a poor effort by Cooper enabled the Welshmen to further improve matters. A smart run and kick by Brettargh sent the game back, but Dan Rees was instrumental in transferring operations beyond the centre. Continuing the onward movement, Wales started a hot attack on the English line, but Gamlin saved daringly. England, by clever forward work, got to more favourable quarters, and Lloyd being penalised the English captain kicked well down to Bancroft. An exchange of kicks followed between Gamlin and Llewellyn, ending in the latter putting his men in a good position. In attempting to take the ball from a high punt Brettargh received a heavy charge which caused his retirement to the touch-line. On resuming after a slight stoppage the Englishmen brought out Cobby to centre three-quarter. The Englishmen wheeled a scrum nicely, but lost the ball, and the Welsh forwards getting possession sent to Gamlin, who found touch midway between 25 and the centre. Marsden

#### WAS SEVERAL TIMES PROMINENT

with useful efforts, but he was badly supported by his three-quarters. Wales continued to hold the upper hand, and Lloyd initiating a capital movement, Dan Rees broke through cleverly. He was, however, closely followed by Cobby, who floored him from behind. The Swansea man was temporarily disabled but immediately the referee sounded the interval.

#### HALF-TIME SCORE :

WALES .....	1 goal
ENGLAND .....	Nil

England resumed, the ball going to Trew, who though failing to field managed to recover himself, and get in a capital return to touch exactly at the centre. From the first scrum Marsden tricked Lloyd very neatly and dodged past several opponents, but the effort was checked before the Welsh 25 was reached. Off-side play by the Welsh forwards brought them under the ban of the referee, and Gamlin had a shot for goal, but it was a weak effort. A punt by Williams sent the ball down to Cooper, who returned to Bancroft, the latter finding touch with a well-judged kick. Following

this there was a lot of loose scrum work on both sides in which the Englishmen more than held their own. Hellings, with his arm limp by his side, continued on the field, but he was evidently in great pain. Working splendidly together, the Englishmen attacked consistently. Fielding the ball very cleverly in the loose, Gordon-Smith secured and made a strong, dashing run; he got clean through the Welsh three-quarters, but instead of passing to Cooper he attempted to score himself, and a splendid chance was lost. Not to be denied the Englishmen got on the attack again, and the ball coming out from Cattell to Marsden, the latter feinted to pass and got clear to Bancroft. He then sent out nicely to Nicholson, who

#### SPRINTED OVER IN THE CORNER

with a fine try, at which success there was loud and prolonged cheering. Gamlin made a fine attempt to convert, but the wind took the ball outside the posts. The Welshmen dropped out, but England returned to the attack with tremendous energy. More passing looked very likely for another score, but Nicholson knocked on. Following this the ball went right across to the left wing, and pretty combination between Gordon Smith and Cooper nearly let the Devonian in. Wales was now having considerably the worst of matters, but a free enabled them to clear to the centre. From this point Wales rushed several scrums, but they were repulsed, and then England took

#### UP THE ATTACK AGAIN.

The game was exceptionally fast, both sides working with tremendous energy. The tackling on both sides was very keen, and few openings presented themselves. At length, however, the Welsh backs brought their passing into play, and but for a grand tackle Lloyd would have been bound to have scored. Still, the effort led to a hot attack on the English line, and following a magnificent series of transfers, in which nearly all the Welsh backs handled,

#### TREW RAN OVER BEHIND THE POSTS.

George Davies gave the final pass to the wing man, and an Englishman charging him he was knocked out for a few minutes. When he had sufficiently recovered Bancroft took the easy kick and landed a neat goal. England restarted, and play opened in the Welsh half. There was an exchange of big kicks between Bancroft and an English three-quarter, which ended in the Welsh captain finding touch beyond the centre. Play quickly got across to the left wing, where Cooper and Llewellyn had a bit of play on their own. Both tried hard to get away, but neither could make much headway. A little later, Llewellyn made a miss, but Bancroft made ample amends for the mistake. England confined play to the Welsh half for a short period, and forced a minor from a kick by Gordon-Smith. On the drop out the game continued to be furiously contested, but was fairly even. The Welsh backs now brought off a couple of fine passing movements, which led to the

#### ENGLISH QUARTER BEING VISITED.

From a scrum just inside the 25 Lloyd broke away beautifully and looked all over a scorer, but Gamlin hauled him down a couple of yards outside. England was dangerously pressed for a minute or two, but a grand dribble by Cockerham brought the much needed relief. The Welshmen now began to show their superiority, and the English defence was several times severely taxed. Gamlin, however, was very safe in his collaring. Gradually England worked out of danger, but Wales got set going again with some magnificent hand to hand passing which resulted in Trew punting over the English line. There was a race for possession, but the ball went dead. On the drop-out the English forwards, led by Jarman, Cobby, and Cockerham, brought off a fine rush to their opponents' 25, where Bancroft and Trew checked them. England had one or two chances just now, but Cattell was very weak at half-back, and spoilt several nice openings. From some loose play in front of the Welsh goalposts

the ball was kicked across to Cooper, but the Devon three-quarter could not get clear. Then a grand combined rush by the forwards carried the ball right to the line, where Bancroft had to save by falling on the leather. Lloyd was instrumental in bringing relief, but England got back again chiefly by the aid of Cobby and Nicholson. England kept up the pressure for a brief period, but in the end they were beaten off and play settled somewhere near midfield. Getting possession from a scrum Lloyd set Dan Rees going, and the Swansea centre ran and then passed to Llewellyn who

GOT OFF AT A GOOD PACE DOWN THE TOUCHLINE.

When confronted by Gamlin he passed back inside to Rees, who took the ball beautifully, but no further headway was made. In the last few minutes Wales made strenuous efforts to increase their score. A superb bout of passing, in which George Davies was seen to conspicuous advantage, promised well, but England managed to stave off disaster. The Englishmen, with a useful forward rush, worked past the half-way, but the men from the Principality immediately got back with more passing and running, in which the majority of the backs took part. For an infringement by Marsden Wales were awarded a penalty near the 25 flag. Bancroft elected to take a shot for goal, and with a lovely kick added three points to the Welsh score. In the last minute or two Wales made a good effort to score, but they were not rewarded, and the end came with the scores unaltered.

RESULT :

WALES .....	3 goals (1p) (13 points)
ENGLAND .....	1 try (3 points)

**Teams:**

**England:** H.T Gamlin (Somerset) full back; E. F. Cooper (Devon), G.W.Gordon-Smith (Blackheath), A Brettargh (Lancashire), F.T.Nicholson (Lancashire) three-quarter backs; R H Cattell (Blackheath), G Marsden (Yorkshire) half-backs; C.T.Scott (Cambridge University), J Baxter (Cheshire), A Cockerham (Yorkshire), R.W.Bell (Northumberland), W Cobby (Yorkshire), J.W.Jarman (Bristol), S Reynolds (Richmond), F.J.Bell (Northumberland) forwards.

**Wales:** W.J.Bancroft (Swansea) full back; W.Llewellyn (Llwynypia), George Davies (Swansea), Dan Rees (Swansea), W Trew (Swansea) three-quarter backs; G.Ll. Lloyd (Newport), L A Phillips (Newport) half-backs; E Hellings (Llwynypia), J Hodges (Newport), A Bryce (Aberavon), J Blake (Cardiff), G Boots (Newport), W.H.Williams (Pontymister), F.Millar (Mountain Ash), R.Thomas (Swansea) forwards.