

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1922.

## FOOTBALL.

### WEAK GLOUCESTER TEAM AT LLANELLY.

#### WELSHMEN AMPLY AVENGE KINGSHOLM DEFEAT.

Gloucester were engaged in South Wales to-day, and, as usual, the City experienced great difficulty in fixing up a side to make the long journey to Llanelly.

The back division had to be completely reorganised owing to Sid Brown, Hughes, Stanley Cook, and Dix all being unavailable; whilst Fred Webb, who was originally selected, also cried off.

Thus five vacancies had to be filled, necessitating a shuffling all-round. Millington and R. James were played at centre; H. Goring (Cheltenham Training College) figured on the wing; and A. Hall and Gough took the half-back positions.

Forward, Holford was still an absentee, and Evans and Bayliss (the latter on the sick list) were also unable to play. Mountford and Wright completed the pack, and Coulson and Rea of the A XV. accompanied the team as reserves.

Llanelly had selected a powerful side, including Albert Jenkins, Bryn Evans, Rev. J. Stephens, and Glyn Francis (Welsh Internationals), and were generally expected to amply revenge the narrow defeat[sic] (6 points to 3) experienced at Kingsholm in December.

Teams : –

### GLOUCESTER.

BACK : J. C. Collett.

THREE-QUARTERS: S. R. Crowther, R. H. James, T. Millington and H. Goring.

HALF-BACKS: T. Gough and A. Hall.

FORWARDS: S. Smart (capt.), T. Voyce, F. Ayliffe, Major Roderick, J. Harris, H. G. Mountford, H. W. Collier, and A. Wright.

### LLANELLY.

BACK: E. Thomas.

THREE-QUARTERS: B. J. Wilkie, Albert Jenkins, Bryn Evans, and E. Finch.

HALF-BACKS: D. Jones and D. J. Hughes.

FORWARDS: Rev. J. Stephens, Glyn Francis, W. J. Jones, G. Thomas, E. Ellery, C. Williams, Idris Jones, and E. Stephens.

### THE GAME.

James made a great burst for Gloucester a minute after the start, but unfortunately lost the ball. Territorially Gloucester continued to have the best of the play. Once Llanelly, in a rush, got to the line, but were soon driven back. A pass to Jenkins was then intercepted by Smart, who was all but over.

Gloucester were penalised for holding, and this brought Llanelly relief. Quickly the visitors again invaded the Llanelly 25, and were all but over from a dribble. So far the visitors had been having the better of the play and the worst of the luck. The City forwards more than held their own in the scrum.

A misunderstanding by the visitors enabled Finch to nip in and, sending out a long pass to Jenkins, the Llanelly man scored an easy try which he converted.

On restarting, Millington, securing in the loose, dropped a goal for Gloucester.

Finch increased the lead with a corner try, which Jenkins failed to convert.

The Gloucester forwards now made a big effort, and once were [1, 2 words unreadable] by a clever effort on the part of Jenkins from scoring. A little later Finch again scored for Llanelly, Jenkins converting.

After [1, 2 words unreadable] Gloucester forced a minor.

HALF-TIME SCORE ;  
LLANELLY ..... 2 goals, 1 try  
GLOUCESTER ..... 1 goal (d)

On restarting after the interval, Millington dropped a lovely goal. Llanelly after this kept up a determined attack on the Gloucester line, and Perkins scored a try after a fine effort. The goal kick failed.

The Welsh forwards were more effective than in the early stages of the play, and got the ball out to the backs repeatedly. Thomas dropped a goal for Llanelly from near the half-way.

The visitors were now hopelessly outclassed, and felt the effect of the hot pace. Collett played a great defensive game for Gloucester, and did some very effective kicking.

The backs were erratic, and lost chances through wild passing. In the latter stages the Welshmen had matters all their own way.

RESULT :  
LLANELLY .... 4 goals (1d) 3 tries (28 pts.)  
GLOUCESTER ..... 2 goals (1d, 1p) (7 pts.)

## GLOUCESTER A DEFEAT CHEPSTOW.

### GAME BROUGHT TO ABRUPT CONCLUSION.

#### VISITING PLAYER AND REFEREE.

The opponents of Gloucester A, at Kingsholm, were Chepstow, who drew at Chepstow earlier in the season. Owing to the calls of the premier team the Seconds had to call on several reserve players. The visitors were fairly well represented.

Gloucester A. – T. Burns; T. Wadley, S. P. Ball, F. Meadows, and N. Daniell; E. Abbey and G. Cole; M. Evans, D. Mansell, E. Curtis, A. E. Taylor, G. Wells, W. Pitt, and H. Jones.

Chepstow. – T. Drower; R. G. Scarratt, R. F. Morgan, R. H. Watts, P. Ireland; C. Priest and E. Jones; A. Watkins, M. Morgan, F. Evans, A. White, D. Thompson, Dr. Farquharson, D. Jones, and F. Kicke.

Referee : Mr. J. T. Curtis.

Chepstow kicked off and worked to the home quarter, where Wadley checked with a short kick to touch. Chepstow secured and kicked down to Burns, who made his mark and brought relief to Gloucester. A scrum ten yards from the centre led to Cole gaining a nice slice of round with a smart dash, but he got too near the touch-line, and Wadley had no room to take the pass.

The home backs again handled, but the ball got loose before reaching Daniell, and Ireland, picking up, ran to the half-way line. The visitors were now on the defensive, and after Daniell had made a dash for the line, Ball picked up and cut through nicely, only for Wadley to knock on when a score looked certain.

A foul led to a visitor being penalised, but Burns, who had previously had two shots at goal, failed to cover the cross-bar.

The City full back checked a strong forward burst, but the visitors worked down, and Burns had to concede a minor. Chepstow were now getting the ball from the scrum pretty regularly, and Morgan cut through in a dangerous manner, but held on a bit too long and was pulled down.

Behind a beaten pack the home backs were at a disadvantage. However, Ball, Meadows and Cole were playing well, and put in useful runs when opportunity offered. Drower, who was called upon time after time, was playing a good game for the visitors, fielding and finding touch in a resourceful manner.

The tables were now turned and the Reserves were called upon to defend in the face of several determined attacks, Watts and Scarratt being prominent. The defence held, and the home forwards transferred the game to the other end. Again the Gloucester forwards went for the line and seemed to have it at their mercy, when Drower went down at the ball and effected a great save. A further bout of handling, in which Cole, Meadows, Ball and Wadley participated, was fruitless, the wing man being bored to touch.

Continuing to attack, Gloucester took the ball over the line and one of the forwards touched down, but he was ruled off-side. Abbey being injured, and leaving the field, Curtis was called upon to operate at the scrum. Attacking strongly, the visiting backs made a dangerous rush for the home line, and it looked very much as though Scarratt had scored, but he was held up, and a scrum was ordered ten yards out.

HALF-TIME SCORE :  
Gloucester A ..... Nil  
Chepstow ..... Nil

Abbey returned for the resumption, but Gloucester now had to face the wind. The home forwards attacked strongly, but kicked into Drower's hands for the full back to make his mark and put in a good lengthy touch-finder. Faulty handling spoiled a movement by the Reserves' backs, but this error was rectified a moment later when Cole, Meadows and Ball handled smartly, the last named running over with a fine try.

Then the match came to an abrupt and regrettable ending. One of the visitors charged before the kick for goal, and he being sent back, Watkins, the visiting captain, came up and argued the point with Mr. Curtis, who promptly ordered him off the field. Watkins refused to go, and the referee immediately stopped the game.

RESULT :

Gloucester A ..... 1 try (3 pts.)  
Chepstow ..... Nil

REMARKS.

Such an untimely ending to the game was to be deplored; but in two previous matches it was stated Chepstow had got into trouble, and it was certain that Mr. Curtis would stand no nonsense. The game had been of a very even character, and although Gloucester had obtained the lead with a try, it was by no means certain that they would have retained the advantage had the match been carried to its conclusion. The struggle had been keen throughout, and there had been a number of stoppages for minor injuries.

Good play was at a discount from the commencement; what back play was indulged in being of a faulty nature. Both sets of three-quarters made dashes in turn, but there was nothing convincing until Ball scored his try, which was the result of a clean and clever cut through. The home forwards did not shape at all well in the scrummages and generally failed to get the ball back to Abbey, who was unable to cope with this disadvantage.

In the loose, however, the Gloucester front division were useful, Mansell, Evans and Curtis being well to the fore. Cole was a hard worker; as also were the centres, but it was seldom the ball got out to Daniell or Wadley. Drower played a fine game in the full-back position for the visitors, and Burns was safe for Gloucester A.