

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1922.

## FOOTBALL.

GLOUCESTER BEATEN AT CROSS KEYS.

SCORES LEVEL AT INTERVAL.

FAST AND INTERESTING GAME.

Gloucester, with their visit to Cross Keys to-day, finished the season's programme. In the first match at Kingsholm Cross Keys triumphed by 8 pts. to 6, and with the City's moderate showing against Welsh teams away from home this season, a win for the visitors was not expected. James, Hughes and Dix were unable to make the journey – their places being filled by Collett, Voyce and Gough respectively.

Evans took the International's place forward, and with this match qualified for his First team cap.

Teams : –

### GLOUCESTER.

BACK : J. C. Collett.

THREE-QUARTERS: N. Daniell, T. Voyce, Sid Brown, and S. R. Crowther.

HALF-BACKS: T. Gough and T. Millington.

FORWARDS: S. Smart (captain), G. Holford, F. Ayliffe, J. Harris, A. Hall, Major Roderick, H. W. Collier, and M. Evans,

### CROSS KEYS.

BACK: O. Male.

THREE-QUARTERS: T. R. Benson, O. Hicks, W. Burnett, and E. J. Pettiford.

HALF-BACKS: F. Reeves and Bob Jones.

FORWARDS: S. Winmill (capt.), T. Jones, E. Pettiford, L. Richards, J. Thomson, C. Tellyn, A. Blakemore, and T. Pound.

## THE GAME.

The teams fielded in glorious weather before a huge crowd. Cross Keys kicked off against the wind, but Gloucester dribbled well to near the home 25. From the first scrum the home backs started passing, but Burnett held on too long and was well tackled by Voyce. Play, however, continued in the Gloucester territory, until Collett relieved with a beautiful kick, which rolled into touch near the home line. The home forwards relieved, but Brown started his backs going and a kick found touch in the corner. Gloucester were having the better of the play all round, and were more aggressive with their passing than the home side.

The visitors kept up a strong pressure right on the line, and had very hard luck in not being able to score. Good play by the home forwards in a dribble led by Winmill took play into the visitors' territory, where Gloucester were penalised for feet up, and Male, with a beautiful kick, found touch in their 25. Gloucester, however, came away with a beautiful round of passing, and had it not been for Brown missing his pass a score would have been inevitable.

The game was bright and open, but neither side gave anything away, the tackling on both sides being very keen. Gloucester again turned to the attack and got some advantage from the strong wind. Cross Keys then heeled from a scrum, and Reeves set his backs going, and, passing all along the line, a try looked certain, when Collett tackled Benson near the corner in great style.

Gloucester then rushed to half-way, and Brown kicking on, the ball was carried by the strong wind over the dead-ball line. The home team again tried passing, but the strong defence of the visitors held out. Gloucester showed great ability in attack, and varied their play considerably, but could not break down the home defence, although they had a great advantage territorially. Male cleared well to half-way with a great kick, and the home forwards getting the ball in the scrum, Reeves and Bob Jones set the home backs going, and, after the best handling bout of the match, Benson scored an unconverted try wide out.

After the drop-out the home team set up a strong pressure and Male kicked for the corner flag. A few minutes later Pettiford was tackled on the line, and Collett got in a nice touch-finder to the home 25. Play was stopped for a few minutes owing to an injury to Crowther, who, however, soon resumed. Gloucester then attacked strongly, and after a fine forward rush Holford forced himself over with an unconverted try.

HALF-TIME SCORE :  
GLOUCESTER ..... 1 try  
CROSS KEYS ..... 1 try

After the interval the home team got going immediately, and within two minutes Thompson burst over with an unconverted try.

Gloucester then rushed up the field, and tried a drop at goal, but the strong wind held the ball. The home forwards brought play into the visitors' 25, and Gloucester were called upon for a very strong defence. The home forwards kept play on the visitors' line, and Millington was forced to concede a minor by kicking the ball dead.

A great deal of mid-field play followed until Reeves kicked to the Gloucester 25. The home forwards rushed the ball down the field to the visitors' line, and Thompson lost it when he was over. A few minutes later Reeves was well held a yard out by Collett. The home team kept up the pressure, and Gloucester were working hard to keep them out. A series of scrums followed on the visitors' line, but Cross Keys could not burst over, Gloucester showing fine defensive powers.

When the ball came out on the home side Reeves deceived the defence, and set the backs going, and after a great round of passing Pettiford went over with a splendid try. The kick again failed.

Gloucester were now outplayed, and Benson bursting through on the right passed inward and Hicks ran in with a clear field, the kick failing.

Gloucester relieved a little from the kick out, and were awarded a free, but gained little ground owing to the very strong wind.

Gloucester showed fine spirit in the forwards and played well in the loose. Male, however, kicked with great judgment and kept the visitors in their own territory. The game all through was played at a great pace, and was most interesting to the spectators. The latter end was fought out absolutely in Gloucester territory.

RESULT :

CROSS KEYS ..... 4 tries (12 pts.)  
GLOUCESTER ..... 1 try 3 pts.)

JC