THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1923.

GLOUCESTER v. CLIFTON.

EASY WIN FOR THE CITY.

Gloucester visited Clifton for the return fixture, but the side was again sadly disorganised, especially in the back division, where James, Brown, Daniell, Millington, Collins and Hughes were all absent. Voyce, Coulson and Bayliss were also away forward.

In the first game, at Kingsholm, Gloucester had a very easy victory, but a closer contest was expected this afternoon.

GLOUCESTER.

BACK: S. Williams.

THREE-QUARTERS: R. N. Loveridge, R. Miller, S. Crowther, and J. W. Gibbs.

HALF-BACKS: G. Poole and F. Meadows.

FORWARDS: A. Hall, G. Holford, F. Ayliffe, Major Roderick, J. Merry, E. Triggs-Herbert, H. Collier, and W. Hemmings.

CLIFTON.

BACK: F. M. Arkle.

THREE-QUARTERS: C. N. Hatcher, E. H. Esbester, E. T. Coole, and J. McClure.

HALF-BACKS: J. H. Bromhead and R. C. Organ.

FORWARDS: J. A. Dommett, L. H. Hatcher, W. M. Kendall, V. E. Rogers, E. A. Munder, G. N. Loriston-Clarke, D. McArthur, and W. S. Holman.

Referee : Mr. J. J. Ford, E.R.U.

THE GAME.

There was only a poor attendance. Clifton were strengthened by the addition of G. N. Loriston-Clarke, the Navy forward, who is a member of the Club, but were without Huntley, Walker, Thomas and James. Clifton won the toss and Gloucester started down the slope, but were pulled up for off-side five times in five minutes. The first promising movement was put up by the Clifton three-quarters, but Organ dropped a pass.

The Gloucester three-quarters now got going, and Meadows dodging an opponent gave to Poole, who went hard for the line, but was tackled. A minute later Meadows made an opening for MILLER, and that player beat Arkle and went over with a try between the posts. Miller missed an easy kick.

Gloucester kept up the pressure, and after Arkle brought down Loveridge, when that player was out for the line, [they] were awarded a penalty kick, from which AYLIFFE easily scored. Clifton played pluckily, but were overweighted.

MILLER intercepted a careless pass from a Clifton three-quarter and went over with a beautiful try, which Williams converted.

Gloucester maintained their superiority, and brought off several fine passing movements among the three-quarters. Clifton got into the picture for the first time when Organ and McClure went down the field with a nice passing movement, but Ayliffe brought down the latter. Clifton were having some of the game now. Once Gloucester had a fine opening, but Miller passed badly, and Arkle found touch right up.

Gloucester kept up the pressure, but wild passing and fine defence by Clifton prevented them scoring again before half-time.

> HALF-TIME : Gloucester.....2 goals (1p) 1 try Clifton.....Nil

Clifton started the second half well, and Hatcher looked like scoring until finely tackled by Hall. Gloucester, however, were soon on the attack, and after CROWTHER had unluckily knocked on, he took a nice pass from Meadows and scored in the corner. Williams made a fine attempt to convert, missing the post by inches.

Clifton were doing much better than in the first half, and they kept the Gloucester defence busy. Gloucester kept them out for some time, but at last HATCHER got possession, and after a hard run kicked the ball over William's head and scored. The try was not converted.

A minute later Gloucester went further ahead, MILLER intercepting from a poor pass dribbling up the field and scoring an unconverted try. After this Gloucester kept on the attack. Gibbs missed a certain try on the left wing by dropping a pass.

Clifton got away, and after Williams had brought off a fine save, were awarded a penalty, but Arkle missed with the kick. Clifton then scored a good try, the ball bouncing off the post into KENDALL'S hands for him to go over with it, and Arkle converted. In reply, LOVERIDGE scored an unconverted try for Gloucester.

RESULT:

GLO'STER 2 goals (1p) 4 tries (20 pts.) CLIFTON 1 goal 1 try (8 pts.)

JC