

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1923.

THE WORLD OF SPORT.

BATH GO DOWN AT KINGSHOLM.

A CLEVERLY CONTESTED GAME.

There was a good attendance at Kingsholm on Saturday, when the City entertained Bath. The visitors, having sustained two reverses already this season, came to Gloucester with hopes of a change of luck. They had to return unsatisfied, however, the homesters being victorious by 4 goals (2 p. 1 d.) 1 try (18 points) to 1 goal 1 try (8 points).

Ayliffe kicked off for the City and play remained in the centre, until Voyce dribbled away and got well down before he lost possession. The homesters continued to press, however, and although Bath checked rush after rush, Voyce came very near scoring, but knocked on at the critical moment and a scrum resulted. From the ensuing scramble Bath were penalised for offside right on their line, and Millington, taking the kick, had no difficulty in placing a nice goal.

Soon after the restart Daniel broke away down the line, and Gloucester again became dangerous, but clever work by the visiting backs and a free kick eased the pressure, play coming back to the middle. Here the City were awarded a "free" for obstruction, but Millington's kick just failed, dropping short.

Richardson then made a dash for the home line, but he was all on his own and could do nothing. Following a passing movement, in which Hughes shone with pretty footwork, the home team had hard luck not to cross, Brown falling right on the line, but being unable to touch down the visitors relieved.

Nice touch-finders by Millington and James put Gloucester well in the visitors' half. Bath's threes got on the move, and after being checked for a few moments Considine intercepted a Gloucester pass and made a fine run for the home line. On being tackled by James he kicked across to H. Richardson, but the latter failed to accept and a glorious chance was lost.

Later, Brown got possession in the visitors' half and made a clever move for the line. He failed to hold the leather, but Collier, coming up behind, secured and crossed with a try, which Millington improved upon.

Bath attacked desperately after this reverse, but could not score, and half-time came with the City leading by eight points.

The second half opened with an exchange of kicks, and then Bayliss, receiving, passed out to Millington, who, after making head-way, fed Brown. The latter ran strongly down the line, closely attended by Millington, to whom he relinquished on being tackled, for the captain to land a grand try, which he just failed to convert.

Eventually Bath worked down into the home 25, where they were awarded a penalty, which Comm failed to land, and play went to the other end, where Gloucester came near adding to their score on more than one occasion. Scrimmages near the Bath line followed, and the visitors were penalised, but James' kick was unsuccessful, and the ball on being returned came to Voyce, who from long range dropped the ball nicely over the bar for a goal, amid great enthusiasm.

Play now settled down in the centre, with both teams making great efforts to get the advantage, but there was not much in it either way, until a free for an infringement at the scrum put the visitors in the home 25. Things looked dangerous for the City, but they broke away at last, and Daniel came into the picture with a clever dash down the touch line. His progress was stopped just in time.

Bath then had an opportunity and made the most of it, Gibbs getting over for a try, which L. J. Richardson converted. This success of the visitors was loudly cheered.

The Bathonians were particularly keen on the ball now, but despite all their efforts Daniel went away again and cross-kicked to Voyce. His kick was intercepted, however, and the Bath man failed to play the ball and was consequently penalised. Millington took the place kick, and a fine goal resulted.

The visitors did not give up their attempts to score, and Considine, beating James easily, landed a nice try. The goal kick failed.

The home team were superior in every department, and thoroughly deserved their victory. Although Bath were triers, their movements lacked finish, and except for the two occasions when they scored they did not look like giving much trouble.

H. Richardson's absence from the three-quarter line, owing to an injury, no doubt made some difference to the effectiveness of the back division, but it was evident right from the start that the City were the better side.

Voyce, Ayliffe, Hall and Merry were the most prominent members of the forward line, but it is only fair to say that the other members of the pack all worked well together.

Collins and Hughes again did excellent work, giving the threes plenty of opportunities.

James made many mistakes at full back, his fielding being by no means safe, and it was obvious that his display will have to improve greatly if he is to be effective against clever three-quarters.

The City team journey away from Gloucester for the first time this season to-day, when they will be opposed to Northampton.

Teams : –

Gloucester. – Back, R. James; Three-quarters, N. Daniel, S. Stone, T. Millington (captain), and S. Brown; Half-backs, W. Collins and E. Hughes; Forwards, A. Hall, T. Voyce, F. Ayliffe, S. Bayliss, T. Coulson, P. Carter, J. Merry, H. W. Collier, and G. Holford (selected from).

Northampton. – Back, R. Vaughan; Three-quarters, F. W. Layman, H. A. Sambrook, E. D. Roberts, and M. P. Barron; Half-backs, C. J. Farr and F. Turnbull; E. R. Uren (five-eighth); Forwards, Dr. A. G. Bull, J. C. Binyon, Capt. J. C. Mackenzie, H. Griffin, A. E. Luck, B. Merry, C. B. Tebbitt, and G. Denton.

JC