

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

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THE WORLD OF SPORT.

HARLEQUINS AT KINGSHOLM.

FAMOUS LONDONERS BEATEN.

The visit of the famous Harlequins to Kingsholm attracted a large crowd of enthusiasts to the City's enclosure on Saturday. Both sides were keen and consequently the football was not of the best, but the game was, nevertheless, very enjoyable from the spectators' point of view. The match ended in a win for the City by 1 goal 3 tries (14 points) to 2 goals (10 points).

Ayliffe started for Gloucester, and the 'Quins, fielding, sent to touch near the centre, and from the line-out a scrum resulted. Here the City were penalised, and the kick put the Londoners well into the home half. The visitors looked dangerous, but Voyce tackled nicely and a fine touch-finder by Millington further eased the pressure.

The Harlequins were not to be denied, however, and they launched another attack, which was only stopped by good defensive work. From a scrum near the centre Gloucester made headway by good forward work, but Briggs found touch. The homesters kept up the attack, and after a good passing movement Miller gave to Daniel, for the latter to make a great dash down the wing, but Jacot tackled cleverly.

The City winger was successful soon after, however, Collier giving him a pass which ended in a fine try wide out. Millington's kick for goal just failed. Subsequent play saw the 'Quins gradually work down, but the home threes, who were doing excellent work, broke away and a promising movement was spoilt by Millington having his pass intercepted.

From a scrum the 'Quins got going, and James was seen to advantage with some valuable defensive work, which resulted in the breaking up of two dangerous movements. Gloucester were getting the ball out of the scrum frequently now and Collins, receiving, set the threes in motion, and Brown, with commendable generalship, instead of passing out, cut inside. On being tackled he gave to Voyce, who got over nicely between the posts with a try which Millington converted – well done, Brown !

A few minutes later, Gloucester added to their score, Millington being successful. The same player failed with the kick. Eleven points down, the 'Quins attacked desperately, and the City were forced to touch down before relief was gained. The visitors returned to the attack almost immediately, and a clever movement by the backs saw Gibbs secure and cross with a try, which Styles converted. Half-time came with the score 11-5 in Gloucester's favour.

Resuming, Gloucester attacked and Hughes sent to touch in the visitors' 25. After a period of scrambling play here, the Harlequins worked down to the City line and the homesters had some anxious moments before Collins gave to James for the latter to find touch.

Play still remained in the home half, and the 'Quins again became dangerous, and only deadly tackling on the part of the City kept the Londoners out on more than one occasion. The visitors were not to be frustrated, however, and James, mis-fielding the ball, let Gibbs through to score a try, which Styles again improved upon.

Gloucester were only one point to the good now, and still play was contested keenly in the home half. Voyce brought relief with a dribble into the visitors' half. James then got in some good touch-finders and further improved the City's position. From a line-out almost on the Londoners' line Millington was successful with a fine try; the goal-kick failing.

On the re-start the City came back to the attack, and the visitors were awarded a free for an infringement at the scrum. Voyce fielded and started passing. A try looked a certainty, but a forward pass spoilt the movement. Play continued in the visitors' half, and, following a forward rush, Millington looked to have scored, but the referee ruled a scrum for a knock-on.

Just before the final whistle blew the 'Quins were penalised for off-side at the scrum in their own half. Millington took the kick, but the ball hit the upright and rebounded into play. The Cherry and Whites were still attacking when the end came.

The Harlequins, who came to Gloucester with high hopes of breaking the City's long run of success, had to return to London again disappointed. In the first few minutes of the game it seemed that the visitors were going to have the best of matters, but the Cherry and Whites soon settled down to work, and the handling of the home threes was a real treat to watch. In this department the 'Quins, well known for fine three-quarter work, were rarely dangerous, but were quick to seize every opportunity which came their way.

Brown, Millington and Daniell were prominent in the home three-quarter line, Brown playing a fine game throughout, and his movement which resulted in Voyce scoring was the tit-bit of the match. The home forwards were the better of the two packs, although the visitors' front line did good work in loose rushes. James, at full-back, made some rather bad mistakes, one of which led to the 'Quins' second goal.