

THE CITIZEN

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1924.

FOOTBALL.

GLOUCESTER v. LONDON WELSH.

WELSHMEN WELL BEATEN.

Gloucester concluded their home programme to-day, when London Welsh, who are on tour, provided the opposition. The visitors lost to Cross Keys on Saturday by 13 points to 3, but they had more of the game than the score suggested.

Voyce took Bayliss' place in the City team, and Merry dropped out for Triggs-Herbert. The weather was gorgeously fine, and there was a fair attendance.

Teams : —

GLOUCESTER.

BACK : R. H. James.

THREE-QUARTERS : S. Brown, E. H. Hughes, T. Millington (captain), and S. R. Crowther.

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

FORWARDS : A. Hall, T. Voyce, F. W. Ayliffe, T. Coulson, E. Triggs-Herbert, F. Ford, P. Carter, F. J. Seabrook.

LONDON WELSH.

BACK : W. G. Roberts.

THREE-QUARTERS : W. J. Lloyd, W. D. Greenacre, Cecil Thomas, and T. J. James.

HALF-BACKS : A. Gumbley and W. G. Powell.

FORWARDS : W. A. Thomas, T. L. Jones, C. A. Marques, G. H. Shepherd, W. H. Fisher, F. A. Pates, I. England, and A. H. Williams.

Referee : Mr. J. T. Curtis.

THE GAME.

The Welsh kicked off against the sun, and the ball going over the goal line, James had to run back to recover. He punted out with a poor kick, the ball going to touch ten yards outside. The result was that the visitors at once pressed, and from a scrum POWELL picked up and burst over with a try in a good position, for Marques to convert.

This was a surprise for the City, who resumed in earnest. The ball getting in the open, there was an attack on the left, but a knock-on ensued. In some loose play Voyce gathered and threw out wide to Brown, who ran and kicked over the line, but only a minor resulted. Following the drop out the Welsh made tracks for the City quarter, where THOMAS, receiving a pass, beat the defence cheaply and scored a good try. Marques failed at goal.

Eight points down in less than five minutes. What was the matter with Gloucester ! Certainly the team had opened in very lackadaisical fashion, and shaped like a side who thought the match was a gift. The visitors, however, proved they were a combination not to be trifled with, and immediately after the restart one of their players broke away and up to James, when he kicked ahead and over the line. Crowther's speed, however, enabled the City right wing to get back and touch down.

Gloucester resumed, and good forward play took them inside their opponents' half. A neat bit of work by Crowther put the home team closer, and from a scrum Meadows serve MILLINGTON, who cut through smartly and scored under the posts. The captain added the goal points, and the score read 8–5.

Gloucester opened out on the resumption, but a pass was intercepted by James, who ran to the centre, but a forward transfer followed with a fine opening.

Gloucester came back with pretty passing, Crowther being sent away by Millington after a short sprint. The wing man cross-kicked, Coulson getting up and securing possession. He was, however, tackled, and though he got rid of the ball to Crowther, the pass was ruled forward. Gloucester continued on the attack, and Powell was penalised for palpable off-side. MILLINGTON had a shot for goal, and successfully covered the cross-bar, making the scores level.

Scrambling play followed, relieved by Hughes making a clever dribble, and Brown just failing in a determined dash for the corner. Some strenuous work followed inside the Welsh 25, and Powell was again penalised, but Millington failed to repeat his former effort.

Gloucester missed a nice chance of scoring just afterwards through faulty handling, and further mistakes allowed the visitors to reach mid-way. The City quickly worked back, Voyce being in evidence. The International tried a drop at goal from a long distance. A visitor ran the ball out from over his own goal, but screwed to touch ten yards outside. From the subsequent scrum Poole picked up and burst through to near the mark, where he passed to VOYCE, who scored. Millington's shot for goal hit the upright.

Gloucester had the better of play on the restart, but a combined rush by the Welsh carried the game to the Gloucester line, where the defence was severely tested. Ayliffe brought relief with a strong run and kick, from which a Welshman marked. Brown received the kick back, and running round started passing, but the movement broke down. Brown was injured in a tackle and went off, Carter going on the wing.

Resuming after some keen exchanges at the centre, Poole opened out cleverly to Millington who fed Hughes. The latter though collared was able to get the ball away to Carter, and Millington was again placed in possession. A nicely-timed cross-kick put the Gloucester forwards in a good position, and AYLIFFE fielding, crossed with a capital try. No goal resulted. Brown returned and even play followed to the interval.

HALF-TIME :

GLOUCESTER 1 goal 3 tries
LONDON WELSH 1 goal 1 try

Gloucester resumed strongly, and were early on the attack. The Welsh, however, cleared, Thomas going strongly until well tackled by Millington. A loose kick took the City back, Ford forcing Roberts to touch close in. A long throw out gave the ball to TRIGGS-HERBERT who went over and behind the posts for Millington to convert.

Gloucester were well ahead in points now, but the Welshmen did not relax their efforts and on the resumption put in some strong attacks. They had had hard lines on one or two occasions, but the home defence was very solid.

By strong efforts the City worked to the centre, where Crowther, taking a sharp pass, sprinted down touch in brilliant fashion. Reaching Roberts, Crowther punted into the open, and raced after the ball with VOYCE. The latter took it over the line and scored a fine try, which Millington failed to convert.

Gloucester continued to have the better of the exchanges, and after Ayliffe had distinguished himself with a strong run the City worked very close with strong forward play. From the loose the ball came out to CROWTHER, who shook off an opponent, and racing for the corner beat the defence in fine style and scored wide out. Ayliffe failed with the goal kick.

After this there was a spell of even play, the Welshmen, though having a man off, playing with great keenness. A little later the visitors were unfortunate in having another player disabled, but after a couple of minutes he resumed. A dodgy run and kick by Hughes put Gloucester in an attacking position, but they lost it. The same player, however, was away again soon afterwards, and though upset on coming into collision with Millington, HUGHES was on his feet again in double quick time, and finished a clever effort by scoring between the posts. James converted. The game came to an end soon afterwards.

RESULT :

GLO'STER 4 goals (1p) 4 tries (30 pts.)
WELSH 1 goal 1 try (8 pts.)

GLOUCESTER A v. ST. MARK'S.

Played at Longford on Monday morning.

St. Mark's 1 goal 1 try (8 points)

Gloucester A 1 goal (p) 1 try (6 points)

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