

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1912

FOOTBALL.

RUGBY.

GLOUCESTER v. CLIFTON.

CITY TEAM SUCCESSFUL.

For this return match at Clifton the City again fielded a disorganised side, for in addition to Washbourne, L. Hamblin, Vears, Hayes, and Smart (playing for the County), Lewis, Halford, Hall, and C. Cook were also unable to assist. Thus the team was composed of more than half reserves. Clifton, who were short of Victor Eberle, were recently beaten at Kingsholm by 36 points to nil.

Gloucester. – F. W. Hayward; A. Hudson, A. Sysum, E. Bowen, and F. Webb; W. Dix and W. Wilkes; S. Millard, W. Dovey, A. Saunders, J. Meadows, H. Berry, W. Rudman, A. Cook, and J. Harris.

Clifton. – W. W. Speid; S. A. Pakeman, R. S. Witchell, C. Slee, and I. Hawkins; P. G. Scott and M. Durant; J. A. Dommett, E. V. Mackay, T. D. Andrews, A. J. Gardner, H. V. Thomas, C. M. Welsby, T. H. Butler, and F. S. Woolley.

The ground was in a deplorable condition, and the weather bad, a strong wind prevailing. The Clifton team was as advertised.

Clifton started, and weak passing let in Gloucester. A free to Clifton saved them when pressed. Then they dribbled up, and the visitors returned. Dix passed well out and Bowen scored. Hayward failed to convert.

Hudson kicked and found touch, and Dix raced round the scrum. Hayward kicked to touch. Gloucester dribbled over, but there was no score. Hayward kicked, and collared Butler. Gloucester did well with the greasy ball. Hayward was collared with the ball, and when Sysum received the ball he was collared, and Clifton dribbled over.

Hayward sent up well from the drop out. The homesters returned, Durant finding touch when pressed. Forward play was the order, in which Clifton held their own. Gloucester wheeled, but Scott ran through, a forward pass spoiling a good chance. Hudson tried to break through, but was collared. Clifton dribbled through, and Pakeman running up scored a try.

Gloucester re-started, and attacked severely. Clifton went away with a dribble by Thomas, which Hawkins just failed to carry over. Gloucester were awarded a free and Hayward made a fine kick. Pakeman failing to clear, Gloucester pressed. The scrums near the line were carried by the homesters, Gardner being prominent.

Play was now suffering from the state of the ground, the ball being almost impossible to handle. In a good position Hudson took a free, and Slee mis-handled and nearly let the visitors in. The home forwards finely relieved, Speid finding touch well up. Gloucester returned and were again awarded a free, from which Hayward converted, the ball striking the post and falling over the bar.

The visitors again were pressing, and from one line-out they nearly scored. A free to Gloucester followed. Clifton finely relieved, but were pulled up for off-side. The visitors nearly scored again, Clifton saving finely.

Clifton were penalised, and Hayward kicked well, but Clifton saved, a scrum following. Speid found touch well, and Clifton were holding Gloucester. Hudson gathering gave to Bowen, who was thrown into touch. The visitors pressed and were awarded a free, but Hayward failed to convert.

Webb returned, and then Hudson was collared. Pakeman, following up, floored Hayward and Clifton only just failed to get over. Hudson passed back to Hayward, who cleared, and Meadows ran away with a fine dribble, which Clifton saved. Dix gave to Sysum, who, however, failed to score.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Clifton 1 try
Gloucester 1 try

Gloucester kept the homesters penned in their 25, and only the splendid defence kept them out. The light was now failing, the game being forward and uninteresting. Clifton tried hard to get away, but Gloucester were lasting better. Webb scored near the end, Hayward being unable to convert.

Slee nearly got through afterwards for Clifton. The visitors continued superior and kept the homesters out.

RESULT :

Gloucester 1 goal (p) 2 tries (9 points)
Clifton 1 try (3 points)

REMARKS.

The game was robbed of interest owing to absentees. Clifton put up a good fight, the greasy ball proving awkward for both teams. Pakeman was speedy on the wing, which helped him to score, while Hudson and Bowen were a strong wing for Gloucester.

There was a good deal of forward play. Clifton held their own until near the end. Only a splendid defence stopped Gloucester from scoring. Hayward was good at back and put in some fine kicks. Dix also did well at half. Durant and Scott were good for Clifton.