

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1912

FOOTBALL.

GLOUCESTER v. DEVON ALBION.

CITY LOSE JOHNS INJURED.

ALBION'S PRONOUNCED VICTORY.

The most important game in the West to-day was the meeting of Gloucester and Devon Albion at Devonport. Both teams had suffered one defeat, and form promised a close contest, with Albion, having the advantage of playing at home, the slight favourites.

Gloucester had Hudson, Holford, Meadows, and Pegler away, the team differing in two instances from the side which defeated Neath last week.

GLOUCESTER.	POSITIONS.	DEVON ALBION.
C. Cook	Backs.	F. J. Lillicrap
F. Webb	Three-Quarter	E. G. Butcher
L. Hamblin	Backs	S. Harvey
A. Lewis	"	P. Baker
W. Washbourne	"	E. Thomas
W. Dix	Half-Backs	R. Jago
W. Hall	"	H. Morey
W. Johns	Forwards	Another
G. Vears	"	D. Hollands
N. Hayes	"	G. Edwards
S. Smart	"	G. Lewis
S. Millard	"	E. J. Lee
W. Dovey	"	W. H. Pope
A. Cook	"	J. Wright
C. Mumford	"	H. Hocking

Referee : Mr. Whitburn (Exeter).

THE GAME.

Fine weather favoured the match, and there was a crowd of 4,000 spectators present. The Albion played the same side which defeated Bristol, their captain still being indisposed. The ground was in good condition.

Albion kicked off, and Jago started a smart passing movement, which was checked by Washbourne. Hall, by a smart kick, placed Gloucester on the aggressive, but Baker smartly turned to touch. A fine burst by Hollands spelt danger for the City, and from the line-out Smart kicked away from the line.

Play continued in Albion's favour. Johns was injured, but resumed. Gloucester were penalised, but Lillicrap's kick went wide, and the visitors saved.

A fine burst by the home forwards was well stopped by Cook. Lillicrap found touch near the Gloucester line; Hall cleared. Gloucester could not get going, and Butcher crossed in the corner for the Albion. The referee, however, ordered a scrum. Dix was next penalised for a scrum infringement, and Butcher landed a beautiful goal from the touch-line for Albion after a quarter of an hour's play.

Following this reverse the Gloucester forwards infused more vigour into their play, and a strong rush threatened danger. Jago, however, pulled them up.

Butcher then made a brilliant run for the homesters, being tackled just in time. The Albion backs, by brilliant passing, kept Gloucester almost wholly on the defensive.

Baker made a good run through, but fell near the line, but a minute later splendid handling by the home backs resulted in Butcher scoring a fine try. The same player just failed with the kick.

On resuming, Gloucester were more often in the picture. Hall and Washbourne got away, the latter being forced into touch. The visitors kept up the attack, and Lillicrap was collared in the 25, Baker clearing. Quite one of the best attempts to score for Gloucester came from Lewis, who, intercepting, cut through on his own to be pulled up a few yards from the line.

Johns, of Gloucester, and Lee, of Albion, were injured and retired. The latter came on again [2 or 3 words unreadable] Gloucester were playing up better, but a sudden rush by Albion saw Hall clear from Edwards on the line.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Albion	1 goal (p) 1 try
Gloucester	Nil

Gloucester started the second half promisingly, and Dix got away from the scrum, Lillicrap just forcing the ball into touch. The visitors continued to play well, and the Albion were penalised, but Cook sent wide. Mumford next put in a good rush for the visitors, but was stopped. A grand burst by Hollands put the homesters on the attack, and Hamblin missing the ball Edwards was able to score. Butcher sent over the bar with the kick, but one of the visitors' touched the ball in flight.

Play was even for a time, but a fine burst by Lewis raised hopes for Gloucester, but he received no support, and the movement was repulsed. A brilliant burst by Butcher carried play to the other end, and following a fine passing movement Baker ran in with a try, which Lillicrap converted.

Gloucester played up pluckily, and Hamblin found touch near the home line, but Lillicrap cleared. Baker next made a brilliant dash for the visiting line, but was well tackled by Webb. Jago, however, crossed just after, but Dix saved. Albion still attacked, but Gloucester defended well. Both Butcher and Baker were hauled down within an ace of scoring. Baker crossed with a brilliant try just after, but Lillicrap failed with the kick.

On resuming Lewis dashed through smartly for Gloucester, but was tackled by Lillicrap. Another home attack was repulsed finely by Hall.

Towards the end Gloucester attacked strongly, and a smart forward rush was only checked in time. Albion were penalised, but Cook failed badly with the kick. Another strong Gloucester attack was well stopped by Lillicrap, who kicked finely to touch. Gloucester persevered to the end, but could not score.

RESULT :

Albion 2 goals (1p) 3 tries (17 points)
Gloucester Nil

REMARKS.

Our Devonport correspondent telegraphs :

Gloucester were well outclassed, but played a sporting game throughout. The home backs were in grand form, and their speed and brilliant passing led up to the scoring.

Gloucester started the second half well, but could not keep up the attack. They were unfortunate in losing Johns so early in the game.

Dix was the most prominent man on the visiting side, he defending and attacking well. Lewis and Cook were the pick of the others.

GLOUCESTER A v. NAUNTON PARK.

CITY SECONDS WIN HANDSOMELY.

The first match between these teams was played at Kingsholm on Saturday, before a small attendance, in fine weather.

The Seconds had several alterations from the advertised side when the teams lined out as follows : —

Gloucester. – F. W. Hayward; F. Bloxsome (capt.), W. Sysum, W. Staunton, and W. Bowen; W. Hughes and W. Wilkes; Rudman, E. Yates, G. Parham, W. Osborne, H. Draker, Russell, G. Griffiths, and W. Cromwell.

Naunton Park. – C. Seabourne; T. Poulson, H. Cherrington, C. Collins, and A. Enoch; A. Green and W. Watts; A. Hayling, B. Prust, H. Harrod, R. Harwood, W. Lane, J. Cresswell, W. Simpson, and O. Cleary.

Referee : Mr. Nelmes.

Griffiths started for Gloucester, and from the kick the visiting forwards dribbled the ball past midfield, where they were pulled up. From the ensuing scrum Wilkes was prominent with a splendid dribble, beating several opponents and carrying the game right to the Naunton Park line. Here the ball was gathered in the loose by Sysum, who failed to transfer at the critical moment, and a certain try was lost. The Park worked out of danger, but from a kick Bloxsome marked, and the forwards following up prevented a return. At this point the Seconds were awarded a penalty, and Hayward with a grand kick placed a goal.

On the resumption the Park pressed, but Wilkes and Hayward brought relief with neat touch-finders. Scrambling play ensued between the two packs until Hayward found touch beautifully in the corner. Nothing resulted, however, and the Park cleared to mid-field, where they were awarded a penalty, but the kick gained them little ground. Wilkes here cut through and passed to Bloxsome, but the latter was bored to touch.

Later a passing movement was initiated in which Staunton and Sysum were prominent, and this gained the Seconds a good slice of ground. At this juncture Staunton retired with an injured shoulder. A good burst by the visiting forwards looked promising, but they were driven back to mid-field, and the homesters taking up the running carried play to the visitors' 25. Gloucester, however, could not penetrate the defence, and the Park cleared.

The game was contested mainly between the two packs, a passing movement being rarely attempted. From a scrum outside the home 25 Sysum received, and running strongly gave an opponent the dummy in the most approved style, and outpacing several others, scored in a favourable position for Hayward to add the extra points.

The Park pressed on the restart, but Hughes initiated a couple of movements which served to change the venue. For the first time the visitors indulged in passing, but one of them failing to take his pass, Bowen picked up and sprinted over. Hayward failed.

Shortly afterwards the visitors were penalised, and Hayward made a good but unsuccessful attempt to drop a goal.

The Seconds were now getting possession of the ball in the scrums, and Hughes on several occasions set his backs in motion without result, until Bloxsome, gathering from a scramble cut over in the corner. The kick was unsuccessful.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester A	2 goals (1p), 2 tries
Naunton Park	Nil

Gloucester, with only fourteen men, were quite outplaying their opponents, and on the resumption they quickly came away with a loose dribble. Wilkes picked up when things looked promising, but his pass went astray. The visitors pressed, and Poulson and Cherrington made headway with some inter-passing, the latter being forced to touch in the corner. From the ensuing line Poulson crossed in the corner, the kick failing.

For off-side at the scrum, the visitors were penalised, and the forwards following up Hayward's kick, forced the Park to kick dead. From the ensuing scrum the ball came across to Bowen, who with a splendid dash scored in the corner. Hayward's kick from the difficult position struck the cross-bar.

On the drop out the visitors paid a short visit to their opponents' territory, until Cromwell, picking up, ran half the length of the field before transferring to another forward. The latter sent to Sysum, who, beating a couple of the visitors, scored under the posts. Hayward goaled.

Directly afterwards Bowen was prominent with a brilliant run down touch, while a minute later a pretty passing bout was initiated in which all the threes participated. Nauntun Park now indulged in a forward burst and were clear of all opposition, but Wilkes getting back saved cleverly.

Play was now contested at midfield, and although the Seconds were everywhere superior, the Park stuck to it pluckily, with the result that Watts, picking up in a scramble, burst over. Collier placed a good goal.

After this the homesters continued to press, until Griffiths kicked back to Sysum, giving him the opportunity to score the best try of the match. He swerved in and out past half a dozen opponents, and finally landed the ball in the corner with two men on top of him. Hayward kicked a fine goal.

Directly after the resumption Gloucester again came to their line, and Hughes sending the ball out smartly from a scrum, Bloxsome added another. Hayward again majorised.

Cromwell was responsible for the next, but the kick failed.

There was nothing further before the end.

RESULT :

Gloucester A	5 goals (1p)	4 tries (35 points)
Nauntun Park	1 goal	1 try (8 points)

REMARKS.

On the general run of the play, as the score fully indicates, Gloucester were superior in every department, but it must be said for the visitors that they were game right to the end.

The Seconds had quite a day out, and for two or three of the backs the match was somewhat of the nature of a triumph. Bowen, Sysum, and Wilkes in particular played brilliantly, and each took the utmost advantage of any opening which offered.

The last try which Sysum obtained was a splendid piece of individualism of a quality which is rarely seen – even with the premier team.

Hughes was fair at the base of the scrum, while Hayward was the usual safe custodian, his goal kicking being a special feature.

The visiting forwards played a hard game, but the Seconds were on top, both in the tight and loose work.