

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1926

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

KEEN RIVALS AT KINGSHOLM

GLOUCESTER v. BRISTOL

Brilliantly fine weather favoured the meeting of Gloucester and Bristol at Kingsholm this afternoon for the return match, and a record crowd for the season attended.

Bristol won the first match at the Memorial Ground by 9 points to 5, and the visitors' record was so much in advance of the City that form pointed to a second defeat for Gloucester. But the Kingsholm team have so often upset apparent certainties that few were prepared to give odds on Bristol winning to-day.

Both clubs had absentees – Sid Williams and M. Short were missing from the home ranks, whilst Bristol lacked the services of E. L. Stinchcombe (injured against Richmond last week), Francis, and Dr. Shepherd.

There was one late change in the Bristol team, E. A. Richardson, the old Gloucester forward, taking the place of E. C. Dymond.

The ground was in fine condition, but a cross-wind was likely to prove troublesome to the players.

When the teams lined out the attendance was about the best of the season, between 7,000 and 8,000 being present.

Teams : –

## GLOUCESTER

BACK : G. Thomas.

THREE-QUARTERS : R. C. Thompson, S. A. Brown, E. H. Hughes, and S. R. Crowther.

HALF-BACKS : T. Millington and R. Milliner.

FORWARDS : T. Voyce (capt.), F. W. Ayliffe, G. Foulkes, J. Hemmings, S. Duberley, H. Roberts, G. McIlwaine, and E. Triggs-Herbert.

## BRISTOL

BACK : B. S. Chantrill.

THREE-QUARTERS : R. Quick, L. J. Corbett, J. A. Tucker, and T. Spoons.

HALF-BACKS : C. Carter and R. C. Pickles.

FORWARDS : F. J. Coventry, J. S. Tucker, Ll. Shaw, Dr. A. S. Prowse, A. T. Hore, J. K. Norman, E. A. Richardson, and W. H. Hale.

Referee : Mr. J. H. Burge (Bridgwater).

## THE GAME

Gloucester won the toss and Pickles kicked off against the wind. The ball was trapped neatly and McIlwaine picked up and tried a burst through but was pushed to touch. Gloucester kicked away from the first scrum and good backing up gave the City a position well inside their opponents' half.

A penalty was given to Bristol and a good touch-finder sent play to mid-field. From the throw out Hemmings broke away cleverly and gained some 20 yards before being checked. The Gloucester forwards heeling, Milliner opened out, but Millington was well tackled. Gloucester were again penalised, and with the kick Bristol again centred play.

Some strong tackling marked ensuing exchanges, but in one scramble Duberley was laid out with a knee injury and had to be carried off. Thus early in the game the home team were severely handicapped.

Resuming, Gloucester were early awarded a free, and Chantrill only replying poorly the City gained a footing in the visitors' 25. Rushing well, Gloucester looked dangerous, but Bristol saved well. Ten yards from the line Pickles ran round and fed Corbett, who passed to Quick, but the latter was forced to kick to escape the attentions of Crowther.

Play was very scrappy, both teams being very keen on spoiling. Bristol heeling, Carter got the ball out neatly, but it rolled away, and Millington robbed Corbett. Hughes came along and gathered, but could not get far.

So far the football had been very poor and was devoid of incident. Frees followed to either side, but not much ground was gained. By good touch kicking Bristol at length gained an advantage, but the City forwards, breaking away, swept the opposition aside, and Bristol were placed on the defensive. Another penalty fell to Bristol, but with a dashing burst Gloucester rushed back, Bristol saving close in.

The City had a possible chance from the next scrum, but Hughes missed the ball, and Corbett fly-kicked out of danger. Bristol could not get going, and Millington, working the short side of the scrum, fed Crowther. The right winger sped hard for the line, but was brought down by Chantrill. There was a scramble on the line and Voyce and another went over, but a scrum five yards out was ordered.

Gloucester, who had been strengthened by the return of Duberley, attacked resolutely, and Bristol were hard pressed. Again Voyce had a dash for the line but could not get through. Bristol tried a breakaway, but they were well held, and Crowther put the home team on the aggressive. Milliner next had a dash, but met with no better success.

Gloucester, however, persevered, and Hughes getting possession handed to Millington, who threw out a wide pass to THOMPSON, who gathered the ball on the bounce and went over the line unopposed amidst great enthusiasm. Millington failed at goal, but Gloucester were three points up.

Re-starting, the struggle forward was very keen, Shaw showing up well for Bristol. A lucky flying kick by Quick gave the visitors a position near the home 25, where Carter started his backs going. Tucker, however, sent a bad pass to Spoor, who missed, the ball going to touch. Gloucester next heeled and Brown tried a cut up the field, just failing to get clear. Bristol replied, but were not allowed to travel far.

At mid-field, ten yards from the touch line, Milliner beat Carter for possession and dashed away, with Crowther in attendance. A timely pass to the wing man saw CROWTHER sprint clear away and past Quick. Reaching Chantrill the Gloucesterian put in a punt while going at full speed, and beating Chantrill and Quick for pace, regathered the ball and scored a very fine try. Millington converted, and the cheers which had greeted Crowther's great effort were renewed again and again.

With an eight points lead the contest was re-commenced with even great keenness, but the play lacked real finish. Bristol had the better of the exchanges, being helped by some sound kicking, but Thomas was doing very creditably at full-back. From a long kick by Millington, Chantrill ran round and started passing. Quick, the last to receive, went strongly for the line, but was smothered by Voyce and Gloucester saved. Soon after the interval was called.

HALF-TIME :

GLOUCESTER ..... 1 goal, 1 try  
BRISTOL ..... Nil

If the football witnessed had lacked combined movements, there had been some fine solo efforts, and on the play Gloucester were certainly entitled to their lead. But the wind had been a helpful factor to the home team.

Gloucester restarted short of Duberley, and, taking advantage of wild passing by the visitors, rushed away in great style. Some of the forwards, however, over-ran the ball, and Bristol were awarded a penalty. Pickles took the kick, but at once went off with a damaged shoulder. Corbett took the outside half position, Prowse playing at three-quarter.

A clever move by the home backs saw Brown feed Thompson. The latter made a good effort, but was upset twelve yards out. Working together splendidly, Gloucester rushed to the line. Brown actually crossed, but could not ground the ball. Again Gloucester were held up outside, Bristol having a couple of narrow escapes.

Pickles now returned, but play continued in the Bristol 25. Voyce tried to drop a goal, but failed to raise the ball, and this enabled Bristol to gain much-needed relief. The visitors, however, failed to get past the centre line. McIlwaine was prominent twice in quick succession with strong bursts, and Voyce and Hemmings too, were frequently in evidence with fine work. The Gloucester backs handled nicely up to a point, but Brown failed to accept from Hughes and nothing resulted.

Later Hughes was twice at fault in trying to gather, and thus allowed Bristol to get away, but the visitors spoiled their chances by wild passing. Bristol did do a little better a minute later, the ball being got out nicely to Spoor, but the latter was bundled over before he could move a yard. A brilliant loose rush by the home forwards gained half the length of the ground, the effort being greeted with well-deserved applause. Another capital effort was luckily checked by Quick with a flying kick, the ball going to touch 30 yards down the field.

RESULT :

GLOUCESTER ..... 8 Pts.  
BRISTOL ..... Nil