

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1927

FOOTBALL

CARDIFF'S FIRST WIN AT KINGSHOLM SINCE 1909

Previous to last Saturday Cardiff had not beaten Gloucester since October 1909, and singularly although the margin of defeat was very nearly the same, the actual scoring being : Cardiff 3 goals (1d) 2 tries (20 points); Gloucester, 1 goal 1 try (8 points).

Jim Stephens obtained both tries for the City, and W. Egerton converted one. Cardiff had a very strong side out on that occasion, seven or eight International players figuring in the winning team. Gloucester also had a strong forward division, but it was the cleverness of the Welsh backs that decided the issue.

Here are the names of the respective teams :

Gloucester : W. Egerton; Frank Smith, W. Hall, T. Elliott, and J. M. Baldwin; D. R. Gent (capt.) and J. Stephens; Gordon Vears, W. Johns, H. Berry, W. J. Pearce, D. Holland, J. Wyburn, G. Holford, and Lieut. Carleton.

Cardiff : R. Williams; J. L. Williams (capt.), L. M. Dyke, W. Spiller, and R. A. Gibbs; Percy Bush and W. Morgan; J. Pugsley, D. Westmacott, F. Groves, D. Pike, W. Jenkins, J. Scanlon, C. Brookman, and F. Smith.

Several Gloucester players, I hear, were anything but keen on turning out last week owing to the condition of the ground, but with the Cardiff team willing to play the match duly came off, though the kick off was considerably delayed.

Knowing the weakness of the Gloucester backs, I was fully prepared for a Cardiff victory on this occasion, but the margin of defeat came as a surprise. But all the old players I have seen during the week were unanimous that the Welshmen were full value for their points and agreed it was the best Cardiff side seen at Kingsholm for some years.

The City were beaten in every department, but especially at three-quarter, where the combination, speed and inter-passing of the Cardiffians often had the City defence in a tangle.

I heard good reports of the display of Townsend at full-back, and Milliner made a capital show against Delahay, but Gloucester, as a whole, lacked their usual dash. Cardiff made light of the fact that they were eight points down early on; as a team they were a bit above Gloucester's class on the day's play. That was the impression conveyed to me by good judges of the game, and they are all ardent followers of the City.

JC