

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1913

FOOTBALL

RUGBY

GLOUCESTER v. CLIFTON

CITY'S RESERVES DO WELL

HANDSOME WIN

Only one match has been arranged between these clubs this season, and with Gloucester fielding only six first team men, little interest was attached to the fixture at Clifton.

C. Cook captained the side, and the places of Hamblin, Lewis, Washbourn, Hall, Baker, Halford, Hayes, Smart, and Millard (all required for the county, Millard as reserve) were filled by players from the A team. If Clifton were anything of a side, therefore, they had a chance of making a bid for victory to-day.

The teams were : –

Gloucester. – C. Cook; F. Webb, H. Wager, W. Wilkes, and T. Powell; W. Wotton and S. Sysum; J. F. Lawson, J. Meadows, W. Parham, A. Cook, J. Harris, L. Smith, A. H. Williams, and W. Dovey.

Clifton. – G. V. Gibbs; R. Rowatt, H. Heppel, R. G. Scott, and E. P. Fuge; W. M. Durant and D. S. Cook; R. S. Witchell, H. V. Thomas, F. D. Andrews, F. S. Woodley, T. T. Fisher, C. M. Welsby, L. H. Fry, and J. A. Dommett.

The conditions were splendid. Gloucester kicked off, the game settling in the visitors' quarters. They soon returned, having the better of the scrums. From a free Gloucester tried for goal, but Clifton saved.

Powell failed to stop a rush, but he soon improved the position of the game by a good run. Gibbs, for Clifton, saved when hard pressed, while Wootton, the scrum half, sent his men away, Wager and Wilkes being dangerous. The visitors kept up the attack, and from a free Cook scored a penalty.

Gloucester again nearly scored by Wager. Then Clifton had more of the game, dribbling well. The ball was taken over the line, but Cook saved. Heppel was nearly in when Wager intercepted. The forwards had the best part of the game, which was rather too keen, and went against good play. Gibbs helped the home team with fine kicking, while Wager sent Clifton back with a run and kick.

The best bit of passing by Gloucester sent Powell away, who was brought down by Rowatt. The game brightened up somewhat as half-time was nearing, the visitors putting in good work, and after their forwards had taken play well up the field Powell was nearly enabled to score.

The game had been mainly forward with patches of back play in favour of the visitors, for whom Wootton and Sysum played well.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester 3 points
Clifton Nil

Clifton restarted, but the visitors were soon pressing. The defence was very weak on the part of the home players. Wager scored after a good run, but Cook failed to convert.

Midfield play led up to a wide kick by the visiting backs. Gibbs, the home back, in gathering, touched the ball into the hands of Wilkes, who scored a try which Cook converted with a beautiful kick.

Just after Sysum and Wilkes were nearly through again. Gibbs saved when hard pressed, while Sysum was thrown into touch by Rowatt near the corner flag. A pretty bit of ineffective passing by Gloucester followed, Wootton getting away on the blind side of the scrum and passing low to Wager, who missed the opportunity by slipping. A free to Gloucester near midfield was taken by Cook, but he failed to majorise.

Welsby's kick out went wrong. Gloucester stopped a strong rush, off-side spoiling a good chance for the visitors. Just after Sysum nearly cleared, but when pressed kicked. Wilkes fell when getting through having the defence beaten. Cook found touch right in the corner, but Gibbs saved. Clifton got away, Heppel just failing to score.

The visitors dribbled well, but off-side spoilt the opportunity. Scrums in midfield followed. Albert Cook was badly hurt and carried off. The visitors attacked from a scrum. Fine passing enabled Sysum to run over with a try after dodging his men. Cook converted.

RESULT :

Gloucester	16 points
Clifton	Nil

REMARKS

What good play was seen was done by Gloucester. Clifton badly missed Scott, Cook, and Eberle. Their defence was feeble, and in the second half Gloucester's passing secured them three good tries. Wootton and Sysum opened out the game well, and Wilkes in the centre being very smart sent Wager in. Wilkes was the pick of the threes, his try being the outcome of a clever run. Cook was a splendid back, his touch-kicking and tackling being fine. The forwards were fairly evenly matched. The Clifton display was mediocre.