

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1914

FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. BRISTOL

RETURN FIXTURE AT THE COUNTY GROUND

KEEN GAME AT THE COUNTY GROUND

GLOUCESTER'S MERITED WIN

Gloucester were again a disorganised side at the County Ground this afternoon, the absentees including both centre three-quarters (Lewis and Hamblin), Hall and Smart. It was stated at the Club headquarters last evening that Hamblin had been advised by the doctor to give up playing again this season, but it is hoped this extreme measure will not be necessary, though it must be said the wound on his leg at present is a very ugly one. W. Wilkes was called upon to fill the vacancy. Bristol were short of Johnston and Crew, the teams lining out as follows : —

GLOUCESTER	POSITIONS	BRISTOL
C. Cook	Backs	H. Hare
W. Washbourn	Three-Quarter	E. Phillpot
W. Wilkes	Backs	R. W. Pickles
S. Sysum	"	A. C. Clark
F. Webb	"	H. Feltham
T. Burns	Half-Backs	W. Wring
J. Baker	"	A. N. Other
G. Halford (capt.)	Forwards	E. Kibbey
N. Hayes	"	W. Allen
A. Saunders	"	F. Feltham
J. F. Lawson	"	E. Smith
A. Cook	"	G. W. Waite
W. Parham	"	J. E. Friend
S. Millard	"	A. J. Kerry
F. Ayliffe	"	H. Baker

THE GAME

There was a good crowd, and the weather was fine, when Kerry started for Bristol. Gloucester attacked at once, Wilkes and Sysum combining well in a passing run. Then Feltham got away on the Bristol right, but made little headway before being brought down. Wilkes marked from Pickles' kick, and sent down to Philpott, who with Pickles got away with clever interpassing, and Hare put Bristol in a good attacking position with a fine touch-finder.

For some minutes Gloucester were kept on the defensive, but relieved with a rush. Baker was very smart at the base of the scum, and fed his backs well. Hare was tackled with the ball, and following this Gloucester scored after clever passing, Wilkes sending Webb in with a good pass. Wilkes smartly converted.

Bristol got down into Gloucester territory. Kerry took a free kick for Bristol, the ball falling just short. Gloucester failed to gather, and scrums were fought out right in front of the posts. Bristol made great efforts to get in, but the visitors tackled stoutly, and cleared with fine kicking. Bristol, however, were soon on the attack again, but passing was slow, and Clark was brought down in possession. Hare, the Bristol back, kicked well, and used the touch line effectively.

It was a good fight forward, with honours so far about even. Baker, however, was too clever for Wring, constantly beating his vis-a-vis, and handing out well. The Gloucester passing was smarter than Bristol's, and generally made headway. A good round all along the line looked dangerous for Bristol, but Webb knocked on the final transfer. Pickles was very useful in the centre for Bristol, and a good piece of work took the home side into the Gloucester 25.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester 5 points
Bristol Nil

Halford restarted for Gloucester, who at once set up an attack, the forwards dribbling away in fine fashion, Bristol hesitating to go down to the ball. The home side relieved through Waite, but could not clear their lines for some minutes, the defence being sorely tried. Then the home side took up the attack, the backs passing well. Norman[sic] got away from the scrum at half-way, and Feltham made a dash down the field, but was well tackled by Washbourn. The attack was short-lived, Gloucester's superior work behind the scrum putting them in a good position. Sysum and Webb were nearly in after passing, and for a time play hovered on the Bristol line.

Relief came by means of a forward rush, led by O'Connor[sic] and Friend. The struggle forward continued, and severely tested the stamina of both packs. Bristol got away through Clark, but the Bristol centre held on too long, and was tackled. He lost the ball, and the visiting forwards dribbled away.

Bristol were compelled to touch down. Hereabouts Feltham was very prominent in defence, doing strenuous work. Bristol raised the siege with a dribble led by Kibbey and Friend, and then a good passing run, in which Clark and Pickles figured, took them to the Gloucester 25. Their passing generally, however, was slow. Harold Feltham caught Washbourn napping, and dribbled away from a long kick which the Gloucester man was slow in fielding.

Gloucester were having most of the game. Passing by the visiting backs, started by Burns, broke down at Wilkes. Clark intercepted when Gloucester got away again, but there was little sting in the work of the Bristol backs. Towards the close they had more of the game, the forwards playing up well in the loose. Hesitation on the part of the backs, however, spoilt their work. Halford and Hayes led a dribble into the Bristol half, but Bristol relieved, and at the finish were attacking.

RESULT :

Gloucester 1 goal (5 points)
Bristol Nil

REMARKS

Gloucester deserved the victory if only for the reason that they were quicker than the home side. The game was very bright, keenly fought, and full of excitement. The Gloucester backs showed fine form, combining cleverly. Cook played splendidly at full-back; and Baker was clever, setting the backs in motion time after time. Webb's try was a beauty, Wilkes putting him in.

The chief fault of Bristol lay in the slowness of the backs and poor play generally; but they put up a strong fight, and kept their line intact in the second half.

GLOUCESTER A v. BRISTOL A

SECONDS IN GOOD FORM

Gloucester started, and immediately carried play to the Bristol half, forcing a minor in the first minute. The visitors kicked out, Marmont replying nicely to touch, and then from a scrum near the line the ball came across to Millington, who found no difficulty in scoring under the posts. The kick failed.

On the drop out Bristol, by the aid of a good touch kick, gained a footing in their opponents' territory, but their stay was short, smart work by Hayward and Webb giving the Seconds the advantage. Within a couple of minutes of each other two Bristol men had to leave the field through injuries. Both soon returned, however, although one was limping badly.

Wootton made a clever attempt to drop a goal, and the same player shortly afterwards obtained the ball from a rebound and ran through to score behind the posts. Hayward added the extra points.

Bristol, on the restart, indulged in some smart passing, but Webb got back and effected a grand tackle of Bray when the latter looked dangerous. A minute later, however, the ball was transferred to the other side, and Clark ran behind the posts with a well-deserved try. The kick was unsuccessful.

Gloucester had a spell of attacking later, but their efforts were not successful, and then Bristol took up the running. Their backs indulged in several neat movements, but the defence was safe.

From a long cross kick Quick followed up well, but knocked on in securing, and a certain score was lost. Give and take play followed until the interval.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester A 1 goal 1 try
Bristol A 1 goal

Bristol restarted, and rushed to the home 25 before being pulled up by Marmont. Gloucester retaliated, and looked dangerous, but a visitor marked in the nick of time. The kick was charged down, rebounding over the line, but Wookey was successful in touching down.

The visiting forwards indulged in a telling burst, but relief was brought by Wotton, who got away on his own on a couple of occasions without, however, being supported. From a scrum Brookes was given the ball, but he foolishly held on much too long when his three-quarters were well placed.

A scramble now ensued right on the Bristol line, but the defence held out, and the visitors cleared from an uncomfortable position.

Subsequently Hayward saved cleverly when pressed by three opponents. The visitors provided a smart bit of back play, the ball travelling right across the line to Quick, who made a great dash, but just failed to clear the opposition.

The Seconds came back with fine footwork, and from a punt Hayward found himself in possession. He gave to Goatman, who went over with what was absolutely a fair try, he being pushed over into touch after he had grounded the ball. The Bristol linesman, however, waved his flag, and after consultation with him the referee disallowed the try and ordered a drop out. The linesman came in for some very uncomplimentary remarks from the crowd.

Gloucester continued to attack, and the visiting line on several occasions narrowly escaped being crossed. At last they were successful, Wotton racing away from a scrum and giving to Dovey for the latter to fall over in the corner. Hayward's kick failed.

Harris marked on the visitors' 25, and Hayward with a fine kick, which touched the post and bounded over, landed a goal.

RESULT :

Gloucester A 2 goals (1 m) 2 tries (14 pts.)
Bristol A 1 goal (5 points)

REMARKS

The Seconds gained a really good victory, but they were full value for all the points they obtained, and indeed for three – if not five – more which were disallowed by the referee after the appeal by the linesman. The try was an eminently fair one, Goatman grounding the ball quite a foot inside the line, and subsequently being pushed over.

Bristol played good football, and several times attacked strongly, but the defence was a little bit too good to be beaten.

All the Gloucester men were in excellent form, and it would be difficult to individualise. Wootton, however, was very smart at the base of the scrum, while Webb, Kingscote, Harris, and Dovey were the pick of a pack of workers.