

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1931

PENALTY GOAL DECIDES AT NORTHAMPTON

WEAK CITY SIDE PLAYS WELL

Both teams were considerably weakened, owing to the English Trial match and other causes, for this return fixture at Northampton.

GLOUCESTER

BACK : G. W. Parker.

THREE-QUARTERS : E. Goscomb, M. A. McCanlis, A. E. Brookes, and R. L. Baker.

HALF-BACKS : H. Aplin and J. C. Brooks.

FORWARDS : F. Wadley, J. Hemming, R. Morris, K. Smith, T. Hiam, N. Powell, L. Powell, Dr. Steele-Perkins.

NORTHAMPTON

BACK : J. E. Knott.

THREE-QUARTERS : G. H. Bailey, J. H. Treen, H. Borrie, and D. King.

HALF-BACKS : J. Millward and W. Allison.

FORWARDS : R. J. Longland, F. Garrett, W. M. Jackson, N. A. York, A. D. Matthews, A. W. Daniels, E. Drakes, and E. Butcher.

Fog delayed the train by which Gloucester travelled for more than an hour, and it was half an hour after the time set for the start when the team kicked-off.

Several alterations were made by both sides, Gloucester's changes being, E. Goscombe for J. T. Andrews, J. Hemming for E. Comley, N. Powell for H. J. Hyett, and L. Powell for F. Merrett.

THE GAME

Gloucester kicked off and Knott gathered the ball to return it to touch. There the bigger Gloucester forwards held Northampton, and J. Hemming took play back to the home 25. Bailey went down to the rush and pulled up the Gloucester pack just when it seemed likely that Baker would get the ball and cut away.

From the scrum, Millward gave to Daniels, and the Northampton threes made a raid which took them to the line. The Gloucester forwards cleared, led by Wadley, and raced to the home quarter. Baker made a mark and went very close with a drop at goal.

A free well taken by Treen relieved. Good forward work on both sides and a wonderful run by Treen were applauded. Parker kicked finely.

PARKER'S GOOD TACKLING

Another great dash by Matthews was spoiled by his pass being dropped. Treen was wide with a long penalty kick, and soon after Knott made a brilliant save. A. E. Brooks found touch five yards from the home line, and later passing by the Gloucester three-quarters broke down.

Good tackling prevented a brilliant movement by Parker and McCanlis, King was held close in, and Watkins[*sic*] sent wide with a penalty. Parker found touch cleverly, and Wadley stopped another forward rush. Brooks was subsequently in the picture with the ball at his feet.

Borrie broke through smartly but passed badly, and eventually Treen was forced to stop an opposing rush, finding touch in the visitors' territory. Matthews was almost clear following a splendid dribble.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

NORTHAMPTON Nil
GLOUCESTER Nil

GLOUCESTER SHOW BETTER FORM

The second half opened with Gloucester showing better form. They passed cleverly, and were mostly in the Northampton half. The tackling, however, was keen. Brookes tried a short punt effectively, but off-side spoilt the effort. Treen cut across, but McCanlis fielded smartly and ran strongly. His pass went astray.

Yards off-side, Gloucester enabled Northampton to get back to the centre. Aplin made a clever opening, and was supported by Brookes, but the Northampton defence held good, and Treen with a long kick to touch carried play to the Gloucester half.

TREEN kicked a good penalty goal for Northampton from 35 yards out.

Passing and re-passing between Millward and Matthews led to Northampton getting close to the Gloucester goal, and only a resolute defence kept them out.

When play had only lasted 25 minutes, the first having been limited to a like period, the referee's whistle went.

RESULT :

NORTHAMPTON 1 goal (p.) (3 pts.)
GLOUCESTER Nil