THE CITIZEN

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1924

GLOUCESTER'S GREAT WIN IN JUBILEE CELEBRATION MATCH GAME WON IN THE LAST MINUTE

To-day the Gloucester F.C. marked the celebration of the Club's jubilee with a special match at Kingsholm, when the City team were opposed to a strong fifteen (including seven Internationals) got together by the President of the Rugby Union (Capt. W. S. Donne). There was a notable re-union of old players and officials on the ground before the match, and the recognitions were watched with great interest by present-day followers of the City Club.

There were two changes in the City team. C. E. Macintosh (Oxford) taking the place of Crowther, and A. Rea, the Second captain, replacing Bayliss (injured on Saturday). Mr. Donne's team was as announced.

GLOUCESTER.

BACK: T. Millington.

THREE-QUARTERS: S. A. Brown, G. Beyers, H. D. Mackay, and C. E. Macintosh.

HALF-BACKS: R. Milliner and Dr. Taylor.

FORWARDS: T. Voyce (capt.), F. W. Ayliffe, A. Hall, F. Ford, S. Duberley, H. Roberts, A. Rea, and W. Hemmings.

CAPT. W. S. DONNE'S XV.

BACK: L. C. Sambrook (North and Leicester).

THREE-QUARTERS: H. C. Catcheside (England and Northumberland), L. J. Corbett (England and Gloucestershire), R. Hamilton Wickes (England and Harlequins), and R. Quick (Bristol and English Trial).

HALF-BACKS: E. Myers (England and Yorkshire) and E. J. Massey (North and Leicester.

FORWARDS: W. R. F. Collins (Ireland and Cambridge University), R. Armstrong (North and Northumberland), H. B. L. Wake (Bath and Somerset), F. D. Prentice (Leicester), J. C. R. Buchanan (Scotland and Devon), H. G. Rew (Devon), J. S. Tucker (England and Gloucestershire), and M. V. Shaw (South and Gloucestershire).

Referee: Mr. A. D. Stoop (England and Harlequins).

After a threatening morning the weather turned fine, though there was a gathering mist which suggested a bad light for the closing stages of the game. The attendance reached about 5,000.

THE GAME

The visiting team, led by Eddie Myers, met with a hearty reception, which was renewed when Voyce followed with his men. Mr. Donne kicked off, and play opened quietly in the Gloucester half. Attempts to open out by the visitors were not attended with any success at the outset, but at length Myers broke away and fed Corbett, who yielded to Wickes, but the latter was well collared by Millington.

Milliner brought relief with a short punt, which went to Myers. The International took a left-foot drop for goal, which only just missed. The ball went over the line, but Millington pluckily ran out and kicked to touch. From a long throw out Hall secured, and later the Gloucester backs handled smartly, ending in Brown running past the centre and kicking ahead. Corbett, however, got back and made his mark.

A missed pass by Taylor from Milliner allowed Myers to dribble clear and past Millington, but Gloucester saved on the line. The City reached mid-field, but from a passing movement Corbett secured, and sent Catcheside away. Facing Millington the Northumbrian cross-kicked beautifully, and gave PRENTICE the first try under the posts. Armstrong missed the easy place.

Resuming, the Scratch side were soon on the attack again, and Quick ran and punted to near the line, where a knock-on occurred. From the ensuing scrum, however, Myers passed to QUICK, who scored in the corner, the place kick failing.

Six points down, Gloucester restarted strongly, and near the centre Taylor intercepted cleverly, and ran to Sambrook, who tackled him. The Gloucester half-back, however, got the ball away to FORD, who dashed over with a fine try, which Millington converted, the success of the home side being loudly cheered.

The game was renewed with keenness, and some clever work by the visitors was recognised by the crowd. Breaking away with the ball at his feet Voyce dribbled half the length of the field, when Sambrook turned the ball to touch when matters looked dangerous. Corbett punted out but for off-side the Scratch were penalised. Millington had a shot for goal, but failed.

Fine work by the City forwards caused pressure on the visitors' line, where Gloucester were awarded another penalty. This time Voyce had a shot for goal, but could not get the desired length. Ensuing play was contested at the centre, where twice the visitors tried passing but it broke down. Next Corbett snapped up a pass and cut up the field, putting in a short punt, which Millington gathered beautifully and sent to touch. Immediately after the visiting backs were in possession, and Corbett sent Quick away. The Bristolian shook off the attentions of Voyce and cross-kicked over the line where Rea dashed up and touched down, but he was given off-side.

Play was open and interesting, and twice in quick succession the visitors were dangerous, but Gloucester just managed to save. From close in Voyce picked up, and, running round, punted well into touch, gaining a good clearance. Gloucester held their own in subsequent play, the forwards doing excellent work.

Later the City pack heeled, and Milliner got the ball away to Taylor and Mackay and Beyers in turn handled. A final pass to Macintosh saw the Oxonian race past Quick, and go strongly for the line. Being pressed by Corbett, he cross-kicked nicely. VOYCE had dashed up the centre, and the International taking the ball over the line, touched down for a splendid try. Millington failed at goal, but Gloucester had gained the lead, and the crowd cheered vociferously.

Encouraged by this success, the Gloucester forwards resumed with great dash, and rushed their opponents right to the line. Milliner once scrambled over, but was called back, and Voyce was similarly treated a moment later.

Gloucester pressed severely in the next few minutes, but Taylor, taking a drop for goal, failed to raise the ball, and a visitor securing punted out of danger. A passing movement by the Scratch led to Quick putting in a strong run, but his pass inside was forward. Soon afterwards the interval was called.

HALF-TIME:
GLOUCESTER 1 goal 1 try
MR. DONNE'S TEAM 2 tries

Some fine football had been served up in the first half, and Gloucester's performance against their powerful rivals had afforded great satisfaction. Voyce restarted the game, and play opened chiefly with the forwards. From a penalty kick Taylor forced a minor, the half-back just failing to get the ball this side of the corner flag. Following the drop out the Scratch made headway, and a punt by Quick went to Taylor, who made his mark, and found touch at the centre.

Subsequent play was rather scrappy, and mostly with the forwards. At length the Scratch heeled, but Myers failed to field, and Gloucester kicked ahead to Sambrook, who returned to Brown. The latter picked up and passed inside to Mackay, who found touch a yard from the line. Gloucester tried hard to pierce the defence, but could not succeed, though Mackay, in a drop for goal, sent the ball under the cross-bar.

From the drop out the Scratch broke away, and Catcheside brought off a strong run. This led to a sharp attack on the home line, and following a series of transfers QUICK, though tackled by Millington, managed to place the ball over the line. Sambrook failed at goal.

Taylor, who was seen limping, now left the field, and Voyce came out to partner Milliner. The International was soon in evidence with a couple of fine kicks, which led to Gloucester exerting severe pressure. Relief was secured with loose forward work, and later Corbett, with a splendid run, reached the centre, where he was pushed to touch in trying to hand off.

Immediately after the visiting backs indulged in some capital passing, and Catcheside dashed away, but fell to a grand tackle by Brown.

Gloucester had a good share of the play during the next few minutes, but the visiting backs were smart, and Myers once cut through cleverly to Millington, but with an open goal Corbett dropped the pass.

Good work by Voyce and a run buy Macintosh took the game to mid-field, and the Gloucester forwards continued the good work, the Scratch experiencing great difficulty in checking a combined loose rush.

The position was lost through faulty play, but Millington marked in the face of keen opposition, and had a shot for goal. The kick was short, and a huge punt by Corbett transferred play to the home half. Here Catcheside, receiving a pass, dashed for the corner, and tried to jump Millington, but it did not come off.

The ball getting loose, the Scratch had a fine opening with Corbett away and Quick unmarked. The Bristolian, however, essayed the "dummy" which was not taken, and a certain try was lost. Dashing forward work gained relief for Gloucester, who were putting up a fine contest despite the loss of Taylor.

The Scratch backs again handled cleverly, and Quick was sent clear away by Corbett, but coming up against Millington he was brought down with a glorious tackle. From this point the home forwards broke away with a grand dribble, and Sambrook was beaten. Milliner, following up, gathered, but his pass went astray, and a splendid chance of equalising was missed.

The end was near, and Gloucester put forth great efforts to save the game. Success came right at the finish, and was a fitting climax to a splendidly contested game.

On the 25 line MACINTOSH was given possession, and the Oxonian, putting on tremendous speed, went straight for the corner. Corbett and one or two others tried to cut Macintosh off, but with a superb finish the Gloucester wing got the ball safely over the line amidst a tremendous outburst of cheering.

The referee consulted Mr. Gordon Vears (linesman) before giving his decision, but the "all right" was signalled, at which the crowd cheered lustily again. Millington missed the goal kick – a difficult one – but the score was sufficient to give Gloucester a two-points victory.

Immediately the whistle sounded "No side" the crowd rushed into the field of play and some of the more excited surrounded Macintosh and shouldered him to the Gymnasium amidst great enthusiasm.

RESULT:

GLOUCESTER1 goal 2 ties (11 pts.) DONNE'S TEAM 3 tries (9 pts.)

REMARKS

It was a glorious finish to a splendid game, and Macintosh's spectacular try will be talked of in Gloucester for a long time to come. It was a great performance on the part of Gloucester to beat such formidable opposition, especially as for quite half the second portion of the game the City were minus the valuable services of Taylor. But Voyce deputised his injured colleague with success, and in those last minutes the whole team rose to a great occasion.

Against a pack of acknowledged strength the Gloucester front gave of their best again this afternoon, and they had a large share in the triumph. Milliner and Taylor also did well at half-back, the former especially, and though the three-quarter line lacked the brilliance in attack of the visitors, they defended well; whilst Macintosh stood out conspicuously for his great-hearted runs and scoring ability. Millington, at full-back, gave a splendid display, and his tackling was immense. Catcheside and Quick both tested the Gloucester man several times, but not once did Millington fail.

The Scratch had some fine players individually in the forwards, but as a combined unit they were not so successful as the home eight.

Massey had a worrier opposed to him in Milliner, and had none the best of matters. Myers was limping in the second half, but despite this handicap he cut out several lovely openings.

Corbett was caught in two minds once or twice, and his "dummy" selling did not come off, but the Bristol captain accomplished a lot of brilliant work, and was the most distinguished three-quarter in the line.

Catcheside and Quick both ran strongly, and the former once tried his famous jump, but Millington was evidently prepared for the manœuvre, and kept his line intact.