

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1908

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. LYDNEY

This match, in connection with the County League, was decided at Kingsholm before a poor attendance.

Hudson, owing to an injured finger sustained in the county game on Wednesday, was a doubtful starter, but in the end the captain decided to turn out. Baldwin was given a trial at three-quarter, Berry going forward in place of Craddock. Lydney were well represented.

The teams lined out at 3.15 as follows :

Gloucester. – F. Welshman, back; F. Smith, W. Hall, A. Hudson (capt.), J. M. Baldwin, three-quarter backs; D. R. Gent, J. Stephens, half-backs; W. Johns, D. Hollands, B. Parham, G. Vears, H. Berry, G. Griffiths, G. Holford, J. Wyburn, forwards.

Lydney. – I. Tingle, back; G. Howells, A. Huzzey, A. Howells, W. Ellaway three-quarter backs; G. Ellaway, A. A. Lewis, half-backs; T. Downing (capt.), W. Stinchcombe, F. Sleeman, W. Wilcox, J. Nelmes, F. Lewis, T. Miles, G. Reeks, forwards.

Referee : Mr. J. Milburn, Bristol.

THE GAME

Lydney kicked off from the Worcester-street goal, and after an exchange of kicks a visitor found touch just inside the Gloucester half. Lydney made headway from the first throw out, but Gent stopped them with a timely punt.

There was then a slight delay owing to something being wrong with the ball. Another was secured, and soon after resuming A. Howells forced a minor with a kick over the line.

The drop-out was knocked on by a Lydneyite, and a scrum followed in the visitors' end. Lydney heeled, but Lewis had his kick charged down, and Holford dribbled through to Tingle, where the movement was checked. Gloucester next got possession, and Gent cleverly fed Stephens, but the ball went astray. Smith, however, gathered and cut out a lovely opening, and after Hall had handled, Hudson crossed easily. Welshman failed at goal.

Hudson replied to the restart with a good punt, and from a line-out the City forwards burst away, but a knock on spoiled a promising movement. Lydney cleared by the aid of Huzzey, who dribbled nicely, but the final kick went to Welshman, who got in a good reply. Tingle ran and cross punted, and putting his men on side Hall was collared immediately he received.

Lydney looked very dangerous, but they were checked in time. Welshman, in trying to run out, stumbled and fell near his line, and the visitors went very close. Finally the ball went over the mark, and Gloucester touched down.

Ensuing play was evenly contested until Johns broke away, and some neat exchanges by the forwards followed. Lydney checked, but immediately after the Gloucester backs were set going by Gent and Stephens. Hall, however, passed forward.

In the next minute the City three-quarters were away again, and Hall, though upset, got up again and beat two or three men cleverly, but could not get the necessary opening. A big punt by Wilcox, well taken by Welshman, changed the venue, and some fast play was witnessed at the centre. Twice the Gloucester backs were on the move, but Lydney effected a fine tackle of Baldwin.

By loose forward work Lydney got beyond the centre, where Gent opened out. Stephens and Smith (who was playing centre) in turn handled, and then Hall, giving an opponent the dummy, cut through beautifully and sent to Hudson. The captain raced down touch, but being pressed, passed inside to Hall, who took the ball grandly, and raced over with a try. Welshman goaled, giving Gloucester a lead of eight points.

Lydney resumed with a poor kick, and centre play ensued. Gloucester were heeling well, and Stephens, feeding Hudson, the latter shot through clean to Tingle, who, however, brought the International down with a fine tackle. The Lydney custodian was injured in making his gallant effort, and had to be carried off.

Resuming, W. Ellaway went full-back and Wilcox came out to wing three-quarter. Gloucester immediately attacked, Stephens performing cleverly, but the movement did not develop. From a long line-out, however, Griffiths gathered, and dodging a couple of opponents, threw out a wide pass to Hudson. The captain took the ball cleverly, and with a rare burst beat Ellaway, and scored the third try. Welshman failed at goal.

Lydney were at once pressed on the drop-out, but Griffiths held on too long when there was a good opening. At the subsequent scrum G. Ellaway was penalised for off-side, and from the penalty Welshman landed a lovely goal.

Tingle now returned amidst cheers. Gent, receiving from his forwards, feinted and cut up the field smartly, finally yielding possession to Hall. The latter continued the movement, but passed forward to Hudson. Lydney were being over-played all round, and Smith was just stopped when looking all over a scorer. Passing by the Gloucester backs looked promising for another try, and then following a forward rush Berry picked up with only Tingle to beat. He, however, gave a bad pass to Johns, and a certain try was lost. Lydney cleared by the aid of Downing and G. Ellaway, the latter cross-kicking to S. Howells, who was pushed to touch by Hudson.

The City soon changed the venue, and then came a pretty piece of play by Hall, Smith, and Baldwin. The wing man covered some distance, and then kicked, but a visitor got to the ball first and touched down. There was a fine return to the drop-out by Griffiths, and play settled in the Lydney half. The Timplaters gained a few yards, but Stephens, robbing Lewis, broke through nicely and passed, but Lydney checked.

Immediately after there was a beautiful bit of combination by the Gloucester backs, ending in Hudson receiving at the centre. With a magnificent run the International rounded the opposition and was going behind the posts, when the touch-judge held up his flag. Lydney pluckily cleared, and Lewis, with a well-judged kick, found touch close to the Gloucester line. From the throw-out there was a scramble, ending in Nelmes being credited with a try for Lydney, though Gloucester seriously questioned the legitimacy of the point. The place-kick failed, and half-time was then called.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester	2 goals (1p) 2 tries
Lydney	1 try

Vears re-started, and Holford following up robbed an opponent and made off down the field. A series of passes followed, but something went wrong at the critical moment. Tingle had not turned out for Lydney, as he was suffering from slight concussion.

Lydney were seriously pressed, but they managed to keep their lines intact. Hudson was prominent with a good effort which tested the defence, and later a combined effort by the City backs promised well. Smith, however, lost the ball through being hampered by an opponent.

A couple of marks proved beneficial to Lydney, but Gent sent them back with a lovely kick under difficulties. Sleeman, with a strong burst, broke right away for Lydney, but was overhauled and brought down. A neat bit of play by Gent checked Lydney well, and then Stephens cut out a nice opening. A flying kick sent the ball to the open, and Hudson had a clear field, but stumbled and fell to the ground.

Ensuing play was fought out entirely in the Lydney half, but the Gloucester attacking movement did not materialise. Subsequent play was a trifle scrambling, the Lydney forwards doing well in loose footwork.

A penalty kick to Gloucester was beautifully placed by Welshman, who found touch in the visitors' 25. Here Gent initiated a smart movement, in which Stephens, Hudson, and Hall all did their part. The final transfer left the ball with Smith, who, racing hard for the line, notched a fine try. No goal resulted.

Having once started scoring again Gloucester went strongly. Just about at the centre Gent set Stephens going, and some lovely passing gave Hudson possession, and with a dashing effort the captain ran round behind the posts. Welshman unaccountably missed the goal points.

Gent was prominent on the resumption with some well-judged kicks, and Lydney were kept on the defensive. From a throw-out Berry broke away, and passing at the right moment to Parham, the latter was lifted over the line and scored far out. Welshman this time landed a grand goal.

Lydney restarted, and by a strong effort, aided by mistakes by the home men, gained a footing inside the Gloucester 25. Here the City heeled, and Stephens fed Hudson, who was through in a second. Being collared from behind he essayed a pass, which was ruled forward.

Immediately after Stephens, doubling several opponents very trickily, secured a nice opening, and passed to Parham, but the referee ruled the transfer forward. By a long kick Lydney returned to home quarters, but Welshman conceded a minor. Soon after the drop-out Frank Smith brought off a wonderful run, but after clearing everyone but the full back his pass to Hudson was not accepted – a lovely effort going unrewarded.

Lydney came right away from their 25, Downing being chiefly instrumental in changing the situation. Gloucester, however, heeled in their own 25, and there was a beautiful round of passing. All the backs handled, but Baldwin could not round Wilcox.

Downing, who was playing extra half-back, was again prominent with an individual burst and kick across. Welshman and Baldwin, however, saved the situation. The Gloucester forwards dribbled clear, but A. Howells fielding in the loose took a left-foot shot and dropped a good goal.

In the last five minutes Gloucester did all the attacking. Welshman twice had shots for goal for penalties awarded for off-side play by the Lydney half-back, but nothing tangible resulted.

RESULT :

Gloucester 3 goals (1p), 4 tries (25 points)
Lydney 1 goal (d), 1 try (7 points)

GLOUCESTER A v. LYDNEY A

RESULT:

Gloucester A 2 goals (d), 2 tries (14 pts.)
Lydney A 1 try (3 pts.)