

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1909

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. CASTLEFORD

YORKSHIREMEN OUTCLASSED

RECORD SCORE BY THE CITY

Castleford, who have gained notoriety in the football world recently through being expelled from the Yorkshire Union for alleged brutal play in their cup match with Headingley, opposed Gloucester to-day at Kingsholm. Some doubt existed as to whether the City could play the Yorkshiremen under the circumstances, but the Rugby Union issued no restrictions, and Castleford being anxious to fulfil their engagement, the fixture duly came off.

This was Castleford's second appearance at Kingsholm. In season 1893-4 the Yorkshiremen played Gloucester, a remarkable game being witnessed. The visiting forwards ran over the City in the first half, but the Gloucester backs performed brilliantly on changing ends, and Walter Taylor and the late Norman Biggs each scored two tries; the home men winning by 16 points to 8. Gloucester had a fine three-quarter line out on that occasion, viz. : W. H. Taylor, W. Jackson, J. Elliott, and Norman Biggs (Cardiff). T. Bagwell and A. Stephens were at half, A. F. Hughes full-back, and the forwards were A. Collins, C. Williams, A. Wellings, C. Rose, W. Pitt, W. Leighton, D. Phelps, and A. H. Click.

Gloucester had three changes in the team beaten by London Welsh the previous day, H. Barnes, D. Gent, and W. Nelmes taking the places of Elliott, Dix, and J. Hall. The visitors, who had not played since being expelled, have lost two three-quarters to the Northern Union, but fielded a good side. On Monday they play Coventry.

The City team and Committee were photographed before the match by Mr. H. E. Jones, Northgate-street.

The teams were : –

Gloucester . – C. Cook; F. Smith, W. Hall, H. Barnes, and Hubert Smith; D. R. Gent and J. Stephens; G. Vears, W. Johns, H. Berry, G. Holford, J. Wyburn, W. Nelmes, D. Hollands, and S. Hayward.

Castleford. – S. Cockerham; L. Hartley, E. Shaw, T. Dalton, and B. Crowther; B. Dalton and A. Mutch; D. Askew, H. Maskell, L. Taylor, C. Pickin, F. Briggs, A. Hurdus, H. Stokes, and J. Connell.

Referee : Mr. G. C. Rodway.

## THE GAME

There was only a moderate attendance of spectators present when the visitors kicked off against the sun. Berry replied to touch at the centre. From the first line-out a Castleford player unmarked got clear away, but made the mistake of kicking and lost a possible chance.

For off-side the visitors were penalised, and Cook sent play into the Castleford half. The Yorkshiremen rushed out, and Gloucester were sorely pressed. A free to Castleford saw an attempt at goal, but the ball went wide, and Hall punted out well. Hollands led a fine dribble of the City forwards half the length of the ground, but over-ran the ball at the critical moment. Johns, however, carried it on, and Castleford saved luckily.

For lying on the ball Castleford were penalised. Cook's shot for goal struck the cross-bar, and rebounded into the field of play, where Hayward tried to secure possession, but was stopped. Immediately after Holford secured from a throw out and Barnes giving the opposing three-quarters the "dummy" went clean through with a pretty try. Cook added the goal points.

Castleford resumed, Berry replying with a sharp dash, but passed forward to Hollands. Carrying a scrum the visitors dribbled beautifully from the centre and over the line, where Barnes effected a save by touching down. Gloucester made headway from the drop-out. F. Smith, receiving from Hall, cut out a fine opening. He cleverly beat the full-back, but was pounced upon from behind on the 25 line. The City heeling from the next scrum, Gent fed Stephens, who threw out wide to Hubert Smith, who ran over without opposition. Cook failed to convert.

Following the re-start, Castleford showed up strongly with loose footwork. A forward eventually picked up and had a fine opening, but hesitated and was brought down. A minute later the visitors dribbled very close, but the home men managed to save just outside. Gent brought relief with a neat punt, and Gloucester gained a more favourable position. From a scrum Gent whipped out a nice pass to H. Smith, who initiated a nice bout of passing. Hall ran right down to Cockerham, and then yielding to F. Smith, the latter raced home and behind the posts, Cook adding the goal points.

Castleford re-started, and Cook was prominent with a fine reply to an opponent's kick. Passing by the home backs look promising, but Hubert Smith could not quite clear the opposition. Immediately after Hall made a tricky run, succumbing to a good tackle a dozen yards outside. Gloucester, however, were not long in adding to their score, Hall scoring cleverly from a pass by Stephens. No goal resulted.

Gloucester were soon on the attack again on the drop-out, Hollands making a fine run, and only being tackled on the line. In a loose scrum which followed Vears gathered and sent out a pass to Hubert Smith, who scored easily for Cook to convert.

Castleford paid a brief visit to the home end on the kick off, but Gloucester came away smartly, and after a capital run by Hubert Smith, a re-pass to Barnes gave the latter a try behind the posts. Cook landed his fourth goal.

Gloucester had all the play on the resumption, but with such a substantial lead the City players got a bit careless. Hall missed a certain try through failing to take a pass from Stephens, and then a Castleford player intercepting he had a clear field with the exception of Cook. He, however, did not make use of his opportunity. Near mid-field Gent fed Hubert Smith, who cut straight up the field, and rounding Cockerham, scored behind the posts. Cook goaled.

Just before the interval B. Dalton broke away for the visitors and kicked. Following up he again secured, and passing to Taylor, the latter struggled over the line near the posts. Dalton converted amidst applause.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester ..... 5 goals 2 tries  
Castleford ..... 1 goal

Vears resumed, Gloucester being early penalised for infringing the ten yards approach rule. The game settled near midfield, where Gent opened out cleverly from amongst a bunch of opponents. Stephens and Barnes in turn handled, the latter running up to Cockerham and then yielding to Hall, who scored far out. Cook failed with the goal kick.

Berry received from the drop-out and put in a cross punt, where an opponent fielded in front of his goal. He kicked high, and Hollands gathering, was dribbling through when he was illegally tackled. A penalty followed, and from the easy position Cook landed a goal.

Hollands returned the kick with interest, and Berry subsequently dribbled well, but a visitor with a flying kick, robbed him. The ball went to Barnes, who sent to Hall, but a try was just lost.

Good footwork by Castleford brought relief, and centre play followed. B. Dalton was prominent with good work for the Yorkshiremen, who attacked strongly. Dalton ought to have scored after a mistake in fielding by Barnes, but he failed to pick up. Gloucester were forced right to their line, but eventually the City came away strongly to the centre. Here Gent and Stephens opened out cleverly, and Hall was presented with another try, which was goaled by Cook.

Castleford re-started, but the visitors were hopelessly outclassed. From a clever bit of work by Gent, Johns was sent away, but the International's pass went astray. Shortly afterwards, however, F. Smith raced over after a smart passing bout, and Cook converted.

F. Smith received from the re-start and beat several opponents, finally punting into the open. He again secured but lost the ball. Johns, however, was handy, and the International ran over with his first try for the Club this season. The goal points were added by Cook.

In the concluding stages Gloucester scored in rapid succession, tries being added by Berry, Wyburn, F. Smith, and Hollands. Cook landed three more goals.

#### RESULT :

Gloucester ... 13 goals (1p), 4 tries (75 pts.)  
Castleford ..... 1 goal (5 points)

#### REMARKS

With their huge score of 75 points Gloucester set up a new record for the Club. The previous best was against Clifton in 1901-2, when the City scored 10 goals 8 tries (74 points) to nil. In this match "Whacker" Smith notched eight tries, which stands as the record individual score for the club.

To-day the points were more evenly divided, the scorers being W. Hall 4, F. Smith and Hubert Smith 3 each, H. Barnes 2, and W. Johns, H. Berry, J. Wyburn, and D. Hollands 1 each. Cook's goal-kicking was a feature, though most of the positions were easy. Altogether the City custodian converted twelve tries and landed a penalty goal, which sets up another record in this department.

As the score indicates, Gloucester had a day out. Castleford showed up strongly at times with forward rushes, but outside the scrum the Yorkshiremen were hopelessly out of it, and their defence was beaten again and again with ridiculous ease.

The match served its purpose in being a soft thing, for with Cinderford and Northampton to be met on successive days next Monday and Tuesday, the City players could appreciate the periods of rest afforded them this afternoon.

The Castleford players were obviously out of condition to meet a first-class team, and the long railway journey from Leeds no doubt took something out of the men. Whatever Castleford's reputation in Yorkshire, the team played a good sporting game, but its one-sided character never allowed any keenness to be exhibited.

The Yorkshiremen play Coventry on Monday, and on their form at Kingsholm they can look forward to another severe trouncing.

## GLOUCESTER A v. MORELAND'S

### LOCALS DEFEATED

These teams met at Hempsted in beautiful weather. Both teams suffered from the absence of regular players.

In the early stages Gloucester had the better of the exchanges, but there was very little in it, and the teams crossed over with no score registered.

Early in the second half Moreland's pressed, and Gloucester were forced to concede a minor, but the Seconds got out of danger and carried the game to the other end. The ball was taken up and down the ground at a good pace, but the football was not very interesting to watch.

Eventually in some loose play in Moreland's 25 Egerton picked up, and dodging through nicely scored under the posts, and Dix added the extra points.

Gloucester very soon were pressing again, and Hawker receiving out of a scramble near the line ran over with another try behind the posts.

A misunderstanding between the placer and the kicker robbed the Gloucester team of the goal-kick.

Gloucester had the better of the game to the end, but there was no more scoring.

RESULT :

Gloucester A ..... 1 goal, 1 try (8 points)

Moreland's ..... Nil

JC