

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1909

FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. CLIFTON

CITY TEAM'S GOOD MARGIN

Owing to the calls of the County, Gloucester had to call heavily on reserves for their match at Clifton, but a fairly useful side was got together under the leadership of A. Hudson, whose ability to again take his place in the City team gave considerable satisfaction.

Clifton, who recently gave Bristol a close game, were well represented.

The teams were : –

Gloucester. – W. Egerton, back; W. J. Vance, A. Hudson (capt.), W. Hall, –. Baldwin, three-quarter backs; W. Dix, J. Goddard, half-backs; G. Vears, G. Holford, G. Griffiths, D. Hollands, W. J. Pearce, F. Pegler, –. Welchman, J. Hall, forwards.

Clifton. – E. Briggs, back; E. F. Eberle, K. Fisher, A. L. Weir, –. Sellman, three-quarter backs; R. Witchell, C. M. Welsby, half-backs; J. A. Brown, J. Dommett, G. A. Coles, H. G. W. Prideaux, R. A. Naven, J. H. Savory, –. Gardner, –. Llewellyn, forwards.

The weather was fine and frosty and the ground fairly firm. Brown started for Clifton, and Weir brought off a nice tackle. Sellman got to the centre. Brown headed a rush but was checked. Then Goddard, getting possession, made a poor pass, and Eberle snapping up the ball, beat Egerton easily, and Clifton gained a lead in the first five minutes, Briggs converting the try.

Soon after, however, Baldwin kicking across, Clifton failed to field the ball, and the visiting forwards dribbling on. W. Hall scored in a good position, Egerton converting.

With the sides level, the game was even keener, and fought out at a great pace. Gloucester were nearly over, but Hudson knocked on the final transfer. But the repulse was only momentary, for a strong burst by the visiting forwards beat the defence, and Hollands scored for Egerton to convert.

Give and take play followed for a while, passing movements on each side breaking down. The strength of Gloucester was most prominent on the left wing, where Baldwin and Hall had a perfect understanding, and passed and repassed splendidly, whilst each of them had hard luck in not scoring.

An attack by Clifton threatened danger for a spell, but the defence was sound, and an incursion into Gloucester territory was promptly repelled. Next Gloucester made the running, and the Clifton defenders were hard put to keep out hot attacks. Eberle, however, kept close watch over Hudson, who was not allowed much rope. Gloucester were still attacking hotly when the interval came.

HALF-TIME SCORE :
Gloucester 2 goals
Clifton 1 goal

Clifton had a good chance at the start of the second half, but faulty tackling later let them down, and the visitors dribbled over, Vance scoring, Egerton converting from a difficult angle.

Vance almost got over again, but was pulled up on the line. Clifton roused enthusiasm with a good round of passing, but Sellman was pushed into touch in the visitors' 25. He had gained a lot of ground. Fisher tackled Vance, and Briggs tried at goal. In the last quarter of the game Gloucester maintained their superiority, and early Egerton goaled a free.

Welsby missed a glorious chance for Clifton by mulling a fine pass from Witchell. Later, with Gloucester pressing, Eberle made two fine tackles. Llewellyn was going through well when a knock on occurred, but the referee did not notice it. Gloucester, however, saved. Dix scored in the closing stages for Gloucester, Egerton converting.

RESULT :

Gloucester 5 goals (1p) (23 points)
Clifton 1 goal (5 points)

REMARKS

The game was highly interesting on the whole, and Gloucester's position at the finish was a very flattering one. Baldwin and Eberle were magnificent, and the former on to-day's form certainly deserves a trial for the county.

Gloucester beat Clifton in the forwards. Goddard and Dix were superior to the Clifton pair. Weir was prominent, and Hall combined well with Baldwin and Vance, whilst Egerton was conspicuous at back.

JC