

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1910

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

COUNTY SCHOOLS COMPETITION

GLOUCESTER BOYS v. BRISTOL BOYS

The semi-final in the County School's Competition was played at Kingsholm before a fair attendance, in which the juvenile fraternity predominated. The teams were : –

Gloucester Boys. – (9) Gough; (15) Voyce, (11) Baldwyn, (0) Smith, and (6) O'Niell; (2) Mullings, (3) \*Pugh, and (8) Langford; (1) Groome, (14) Rigby, (4) Gough, (13) Hough, (10) Mans, (5) Melling, and (0) Morgan.

Bristol Boys. – (1) Corbett; (2) Dawe, (3) \*Wilkins, (4) Pollett, and (5) A. Vallis; (6) Houghton and (7) Williams; (9) \*Pickard, (10) \*Downs, (11) Cossens, (12) †F. Vallis, (13) Schonberg, (14) Smith, (15) Seager, and (0) Dite.

Referee : Mr. F. Abbey.

The Bristol boys had the advantage in weight, though Gloucester had a couple of big lads in Morgan and Smith, from Rich's School. The visitors kicked off, and play opened at the centre. The Gloucester boys, though only playing seven forwards, heeled smartly from the early scrums, and Smith got in two or three dashing runs, using his strength in handing off.

A strong rush by the Gloucester forwards tested Corbett, but the latter got in a clever kick to touch. Dawe and Wilkins replied with good punts, and the Gloucester half was reached.

Off-side by the visitors lost them some 20 yards, and then Smith, bursting through his opponents, made headway. The Gloucester backs put in a very smart bout of passing, Langford initiating smartly, and Smith was again prominent with another strong run. Off-side lost the advantage, but Bristol were penalised for a similar infringement, and the centre was the scene of operations.

The Bristol boys rushed a couple of scrums in good style, but they were checked in time. The visitors, however, attacked strongly and Gloucester were forced to concede a minor. Bristol still kept up the attack by superior forward play, and the home team were kept busily defending.

Bristol forced another minor with a fruitless drop at goal, and soon afterwards Dawe had a dash for the line, being forced to touch just in time. Bristol continued to have all the game, but the tackling of the Gloucester boys was excellent and prevented a score. At the interval nothing tangible had been registered.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester Boys .....	Nil
Bristol Boys .....	Nil

Gloucester re-started, and play opened at mid-field. Good work from the line-out gave Bristol a footing in their opponents' half, but the City lads rushed back. The game was principally forward, and though keen lacked incident. Both full backs were applauded for good play, but with the game so closely contested there was not much chance for individuals shining. Bristol confined operations to the Gloucester half pretty well, and eventually after a good burst Pickard picked up and scored, himself placing a goal.

Resuming, Bristol again attacked, and Vallis had a good dash for the line, but was upset, being injured in the neck in falling. He had to retire, and Bristol continued one short. Gloucester did better in subsequent play, but Smith twice failed to take his pass when there was a prospect of an opening. Bristol came again before the end, but there was no more scoring.

RESULT:

Bristol Boys ..... 1 goal (5 points)

Gloucester Boys ..... Nil

It was a hard-fought game, but Bristol were the stronger side all round and deserved their win. Their forwards were a good lot, and in all departments, save heeling, held the advantage.

The back play on both sides failed to reach the standard of former displays, Gloucester especially showing a falling off. The lads, however, put plenty of dash into their play, and their tackling was a marked feature.

JC