

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1910

## FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. 2<sup>ND</sup> GLO'STER REGIMENT

ARMY CUP FINALISTS AT KINGSHOLM

SOLDIERS' CREDITABLE DISPLAY

Having a vacant date owing to drawing a bye in the County Cup Competition, Gloucester arranged a home match with the 2nd Gloucester Regiment, who recently qualified for the final of the Army Cup.

The visitors have earned a good reputation this season in the class of football they have engaged in, and though not anticipating victory at the expense of the premier city team were not without hope of giving their powerful opponents a good game.

Gloucester was not at full strength – Vance, Barnes, and Pearce being absent. Hudson had decided not to play owing to the wound in his leg not having healed, but Barnes crying off at the last moment the captain turned out.

The weather unfortunately was not very inviting. Heavy rain fell an hour before the start, and there was every prospect of more to follow.

There was only a moderate attendance when the teams lined out as follows : –

Gloucester. – W. Egerton, back; A. Hudson (capt.), W. Hall, E. Hall, W. Washbourne, three-quarter backs; D. R. Gent, J. Stephens, half-backs; G. Vears, H. Berry, G. Griffiths, G. Holford, D. Hollands, J. Wyburn, F. Pegler, W. Nelmes, forwards.

2ND Gloucesters. –Private Miller, back; Corporal Minahan, Private Parker, Sergeant Milton, Private Milliner, three-quarter backs; Lance-Corpl. F. Smith, Corporal Smith, half-backs; Captain Pagan, Corporal James, Corporal Jones, Corporal Harvey, Private Armitage, Private Bramfield, Private Heal, Private Whollen, forwards.

Referee : Mr. J. T. Curtis.

## THE GAME

Owing to the teams wearing the same colours Gloucester applied for the use of the county jerseys, but permission was declined, and the City appeared in some old county jerseys which were scraped together.

The Regiment were a finely built set of players, and met with a hearty reception on entering the field. Gloucester kicked off, and there being no reply to the return a scrum followed at midfield. The City heeled, and a passing bout was started, but a transfer went astray and the Regiment kicked down to Egerton, where off-side caused the visitors to be penalised.

Stephens gathering from a scrum set his threes moving, and Hudson dashed down the wing and punted, the ball going to touch a few yards from the line. Gloucester pressed, and Griffiths throwing out wide to W. Hall, the latter dropped for goal, but only a minor resulted.

Following the drop out the Regiment profited by a mistake by the home backs and reached the home half. Here the soldiers heeled, and Frank Smith burst through and fed Milliner, but the latter was thrown to touch by Egerton.

The Regiment attacked strongly, but Stephens gained relief with a timely punt. Next Hollands dribbled splendidly from a scrum to the centre, where Milliner checked. The visitors were playing keenly, and with close tackling prevented the Gloucester backs getting away.

Eventually Washbourne got in a clever run, but was "legged" just as he looked likely to get clear. Gloucester made further headway, and some close work followed in the Regiment's half. The visitors cleared with a sharp rush, and centre play was witnessed.

The Regiment got the ball away from a couple of scrums very smartly, and though little ground was made they gave evidence of knowing the game. A bout of passing by the Gloucester backs looked promising, and W. Hall cross-kicking Berry raced up but could not control the ball, and Miller cleared with a fine kick.

Good play by the Regiment's left wing gave them a footing in the City half, and from a kick over the line Egerton conceded a minor. In charging on the drop out Holford got knocked out, and had to be carried off the field. Resuming with seven forwards Gloucester gained ground through a flying kick by Stephens, but the City were soon sent back to mid-field.

Gathering the ball from a loose kick, E. Hall smartly fed Washbourne, who cross-punted to Hollands. The latter doubled, but his pass was intercepted by Minahan who ran and kicked to Egerton in the home half. Gloucester several times got the ball out, but the tackling was so keen that no opening could be obtained. Hollands was prominent with another breakaway, but Berry this time failed to take the transfer.

Gloucester attacked after this, and W. Hall would have gone in, but for a knock on.

Still pressing, the City halves opened out, and the ball coming out to Washbourne, the second teamer, with a sharp dash, got past a couple of opponents and scored smartly. Egerton failed at goal. Holford now returned, and the teams continued on level terms.

The Regiment worked down to the Gloucester half, where they put in some very smart play.

The City, however, got away, Hollands leading, and the visiting full-back was beaten. The ball, however, was over-run, and Miller found touch with a nice kick. The soldiers further improved their position, and when the interval arrived play was at midfield.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester ..... 1 try  
Second Gloucesters ..... Nil

The soldiers restarted, and Holford failing to take the ball a scrum was ordered in the Gloucester half. From a subsequent line-out Hollands started the backs in motion, and Hudson punted to Miller, who returned to Gent.

There was another exchange of kicks, ending in a visitor being penalised for an off-side tackle. Gloucester got in their opponents' territory as a result of this infringement, and Corporal Smith was here penalised for off-side at the scrum. Egerton punted high almost under the posts, and a visitor fumbling Hollands nipped in and scored easily. Egerton added the extra points.

Resuming, the Regiment reached the Gloucester half, but the City came away with a nice bout of passing. Hudson was the last to receive, and the International cleared Miller, but was finely tackled by Milton, who had got back. Wyburn now retired limping, and Hudson had to receive attention from the ambulance men, Gloucester only playing 13 men.

Hollands came out on the wing, and Gloucester might immediately have added to their lead but for a slip. Taking advantage of some loose play by Gloucester the soldiers dribbled clear, and the situation was only saved in the nick of time by W. Hall. Gent brought relief with a fine touch-finder, and midfield play followed. Wyburn now returned, but Stephens was at once hurt and went three-quarter, W. Hall coming up to outside half.

The City nearly crossed through Hollands in the next minute, but then a mistake in handling allowed the soldiers to gain more favourable quarters. Gloucester, with clever passing and a splendid dash by Washbourne changed the venue, but the City were at fault again in the backs, and Milliner had a clear opening. He, however, essayed a pass, and Egerton tackled his man well.

Stephens was now in his old position, and Gloucester were getting the ball from nearly every scrum. The handling, however, was erratic, and ground was several times lost. It was by taking advantage of looseness on the part of the home men that the Regiment got dangerous, and Gloucester being penalised Smith had a drop for goal. The kick, however, was charged down, and Gloucester rushed to the other end. Fine play by Miller brought the necessary relief, but in the next few minutes play was rather scrambling, mistakes being numerous.

The Regiment were holding their own very well, and Miller, with a beautiful kick found touch a dozen yards outside. The City were penalised a minute later, and Parker made a fine attempt to drop at goal. The Regiment struggled hard to effect a score, and it was only a remarkable save by Gent that saved Gloucester on one occasion.

From this point Gloucester came clean away, and a clever bit of play by Hollands gave the City a fine opening. Sound tackling, however, prevented the line being crossed, and Stephens shortly afterwards lost a certain score through passing forward on the line, but a little later the veteran half-back cut out a lovely opening and put E. Hall over easily. No goal resulted.

Gloucester had the better of the exchanges on the resumption, and after passing Hollands was credited with a try, though there was considerable doubt as to its legality. Egerton failed at goal. Soon afterwards the end came.

#### RESULT :

Gloucester ..... 1 goal 3 tries (14 points)  
Second Gloucester Regiment ..... Nil

## REMARKS

Gloucester by no means had the soft thing on some people expected. The soldiers played an exceptionally keen game, and in the first half they had little the worst of the exchanges. The City certainly took a strong lead after the interval, and even after Hudson retired Gloucester were always on top.

Forward, the Regiment displayed considerable dash, and though lacking the cleverness of the home pack were often times dangerous with loose rushes. The feature of the soldiers' play was the tackling, there being no mistake in putting the man down when he was collared.

The Gloucester three-quarters now and again exhibited pretty passing, but there were numerous mistakes, and on the whole the form was not satisfactory. Washbourne again shaped well on the wing, and his try was a really good effort. Hudson put in two or three smart dashes, but he did not run any risks, and he was perhaps wise in this respect under the circumstances. His injury, consisting of a strained muscle in the left hand, is not serious.

After the captain went off Hollands came out to three-quarter, and he performed with considerable credit in the position. The Brothers Hall were smart at times at centre, and both kicked well. At half-back Gent and Stephens held a commanding advantage, especially in the second half, when the seven forwards heeled with far more regularity than the eight did in the first portion of the game.

The visitors were best served behind the scrum by Miller at full back, and Parker, Milton, and Milliner at three-quarter.

The soldiers were not at all afraid to give the ball air, but the passing was too slow to be effective in attack. Miller gave a capital display in the position of custodian, fielding and gathering the ball splendidly and kicking well. Egerton also gave a good display.

## GLOUCESTER A v. ST. MARK'S

### CITY SECONDS BEATEN

These teams met at Walham, the Seconds being weakly represented, playing two forwards (Quixley and Blackford) at three-quarter.

St. Mark's showed the better form to begin with, and kept their advantage right through the game.

After matters had been contested slightly in the homesters' favour for ten minutes, Hayward gained them the lead by landing the ball over the crossbar with a lovely penalty kick

The visiting pack, although a big lot, seemed to be carrying some passengers, and the Saints for a time made rings round them.

Westbury worked very hard, whilst, in the three-quarters, Fitzpatrick began to shine. Early in the second half he made one magnificent run, but no score resulted, as he passed to Bloxsome a few yards from the line and that player was pulled up.

Some exciting play was seen in the second half, each side making desperate efforts. St. Mark's were, however, clearly the better side, and they deserved it when Mountford got over in the corner after Gloucester had been very hardly pressed. The try went unconverted, and no further score was added.

The City team were inferior in every department, although their halves and three-quarters shone well at times.

#### RESULT :

St. Mark's .... 1 goal (p) 1 try (6 points)  
Gloucester A ..... Nil