

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1911

FOOTBALL

RUGBY

GLOUCESTER v CLIFTON

WEAKENED CITY TEAM SUCCESSFUL

For this return match at Clifton, Gloucester had to call on nine reserves, for in addition to the six players (Hudson, Dix, Vears, Smart, Lodge, and Holford) called on by the county, Hall, Cook, and Griffiths are all on the injured list. Clifton were able to field full strength, and under the circumstances greatly fancied their chances of gaining a victory at the expense of the City.

Gloucester : W. Egerton; W. Washbourne, W. Staunton, L. Hamblin, and F. Bloxsome; J. Hamblin and F. Yates; J. Meadows, H. Berry, C. Mumford, S. Millard, F. Pegler, J. Westbury, A. Russell, and P. Symonds.

Clifton : E. Briggs; E. F. Eberle, V. F. Eberle, W. W. Hoskin, and C. M. Welsby; J. Wyatt and D. S. Cook; J. Dommett, R. R. Yalland, E. H. Bradley, A. N. H. Churchill, F. Ellerton, H. C. M. Hosegood, F. S. Woodley, and R. S. Witchell.

## THE GAME

Gloucester started. Victor Eberle was early prominent, but his pass was missed. Gloucester took up the attack, but the Clifton pack relieved, Washbourne saving. Briggs was tackled dangerously near the line. J. Hamblin retired with injured ribs. Hoskin spoilt some passing, and Staunton made a useful kick.

Victor Eberle got off, his forwards helping well. Gloucester were next away, Victor Eberle pulling up Staunton. Mumford, who had been playing half since the accident to Hamblin, was useful. Egerton saved finely when pressed. Bloxsome broke away cleverly, Ellison Eberle tackling finely. Hoskin kicked to centre from a mark, and Washbourne saved a fine effort by Eberle.

The game was fast, Clifton having the better of the exchanges since Hamblin's retirement. The ball had plenty of air, and play settled at the centre for some time. Gloucester deserved credit for showing some combination, though the passing was very uncertain, and the visitors were being very closely marked.

Half-way through the first half Ellison Eberle made a great run from a pass by Victor [Eberle], Egerton making an equally great tackle. Then a poor pass by Hoskin to Welsby spoiled a certain try. A bad throw in by Cook ended in Bloxsome making a splendid run, the Gloucester man crossing, but the player had gone into touch.

The defence was badly beaten, but Clifton were as lucky as they had been unlucky a minute previously. Clifton were passing finely, the two Eberle's and Yalland being prominent, but the homesters were pulled up when the defence was outwitted for a pass forward. From a mistake by the Cliftonians, Washbourne scored and Hamblin converted.

Clifton did not deserve to be five points down. Berry soon after, however, increased the lead from a gift, Hambling converting. Gloucester were now getting the ball surprisingly well considering they were one short. Yates was not putting the ball in straight.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester ..... 2 goals  
Clifton ..... Nil

Clifton stuck pluckily to the game, the Eberles' and Hoskin gaining ground. Welsby put in a clever kick, but Egerton again found touch cleverly. Hoskin missed a chance by running into Wyatt.

Bloxsome was tackled by Victor Eberle. From a good kick by Welsby, Gloucester touched down. The referee was not awake to Yates, who repeatedly put the ball at his forwards' feet.

The Clifton forwards broke away finely, but the ball eventually went dead. Gloucester had been forced on the defensive throughout the early stages of this half. Clifton continued to hang on to the game tenaciously, but they were a luckless side, and nothing went right at the critical moment.

At three-quarter time Gloucester maintained their ten points' lead. They did not get much chance of handling, and Egerton repeatedly saved them. Welsby took a good drop at goal under difficulties, Gloucester again touching down.

In the last stages Gloucester did show promise of at last scoring a passing try. Hamblin went on the field with a quarter of an hour to go, but the trainer would not allow him to play, and wisely.

Ellison Eberle returned a free, finding touch finely at the centre. The home side struggled anxiously to reduce the lead, and there were frequent hopeful bursts, one being ended by Wyatt passing forward.

Had Gloucester not obtained the lead they hardly looked like doing so now. Briggs did not assist the forwards so well as usual, his kicking being poor. Hoskin brought relief but Washbourne kicked to the centre. Gloucester were quite content to kick to touch. A free to Clifton was again finely taken by Ellison Eberle.

A forward pass robbed Victor Eberle of a certain try, Clifton failing on the other wing through a poor pass. Ellison Eberle scored an unconverted try after a fine run.

RESULT :

Gloucester ..... 2 goals (10 points)  
Clifton ..... 1 try (3 points)

## REMARKS

The game was fast, though not over exciting. Gloucester were distinctly lucky to get a 10-3 victory, Clifton, particularly in the second half, having more of the game. The visiting forwards have the referee to thank for getting the ball so often.

Egerton was great, tackling and fielding finely. At three-quarter, Washbourne was conspicuous, and Russell, Millard, and Pegler were prominent in the pack. Clifton handled better, and the Eberles' were an immense support to them. Wyatt did well at half. Clifton played cleverly in the loose.

### GLOUCESTER A v TREDWORTH

#### AN EXCITING FINISH

These teams met at Kingsholm on Saturday before a sparse attendance. The teams were : –

Gloucester A. – F. W. Hayward; E. Harris, H. Cook, A. Sysum, and P. Roach; W. Watts and T. Burns; J. Harris (capt.), W. Dovey, A. Banner, A. Cook, Cooper, L. Stafford, J. Griffiths, and R. Holder.

Tredworth. – F. Perry; G. Welshman, L. Rudge, O. Rigby, and A. Sadler; E. Rudge and W. Rigby; J. Beard, H. Kirby, T. Presdee, D. Bretherton, C. Austin, W. Griffiths, B. Young, and J. Price.

The opening stages of the game were of a give and take nature, each side pressing in turn, but Tredworth, with a penalty kick in a good position had a nice chance of gaining points, but Perry's kick failed.

Tredworth pressed for some time, but although they got the ball back they could do little with it, and their passing was wild and quickly broken up. From a scrum in the Gloucester 25 the Seconds heeled nicely, and Watts and Burns got the ball away smartly.

The third line was quickly in motion, and the ball travelled along well to E. Harris on the wing, who sprinted away, and when faced by Perry, punted over the visiting custodian's head for H. Cook to run up and score a good try, which Hayward converted with a good kick.

Tredworth went off at a great pace after this, and were quickly swarming on Gloucester's line, a desperate rush ending in W. Rigby getting over far out. The kick failed.

The Seconds had the best of subsequent exchanges, and some useful kicks by H. Cook and Hayward kept Gloucester well up. Perry saved well when pressed, but the Tredworth defence was severely tested, and a free kick brought them welcome relief.

Banner, with a useful dribble, put Gloucester in an attacking position again, and some smart following up by E. Harris on the wing caused Perry to run into touch near the Gloucester line. The visitors' front rank, however, broke away from the line out and cleared a dangerous situation. They rushed well and were only pulled up just in time, Hayward eventually centring play with a well-judged kick.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester A .....	1 goal
Tredworth .....	1 try

Before the second half was a minute old Gloucester were pressing, and H Cook cleverly intercepting an opponent's pass, ran in under the posts, Hayward goaling.

Centre play followed for some time, but neither side could make much headway. Hayward put in some good touch-kicks, and eventually the front broke away and carried the game into the Tredworth quarter. The visitors, however, working well together, gradually forced the home team back, and catching the home forwards napping they rushed a couple of scrums cleverly and obtained a footing quite close to the home line.

From the succeeding scrum the ball came out smartly to the three-quarters, and Rigby passing just at the right moment put Welshman over in the corner.

A minute later Tredworth were back again in the Gloucester quarter, and in a hot melee near the home line L. Rigby picked up and dodged over with another try for Perry to convert, thus putting Tredworth one point ahead.

Gloucester put forth desperate efforts to regain the lead, and set up a fierce attack on the Tredworth line, the play being tremendously keen and exciting. From a scrum close in Harris broke away smartly and scored a good try on his own, which Hayward converted with a splendid kick. The Seconds pressed hotly to the end, but could not get over again.

#### RESULT :

Gloucester A ..... 3 goals (15 points)

Tredworth .... 1 goal 2 tries (11 points)

#### REMARKS

It was for the most part a scrappy game to watch, but the last ten minutes, although contested in semi-darkness, were wildly exciting, and the Seconds are to be heartily commended on pulling the game out of the fire after looking a beaten team. Very little individual comment is necessary, but the exception was Hayward at back, who was in excellent form, fielding well and kicking a splendid length.