

THE CITIZEN

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 1912

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v STROUD

CITY EASY WINNERS

Gloucester were only poorly represented for this return match at Stroud owing to several players being on the injured list, and considerable difficulty was experienced in fixing up the back division. Further evidence was thus afforded of the futility of crowding so many matches in at holiday time.

The teams were as follows :—

Gloucester. — F. W. Hayward; C. Cook, W. Staunton, F. Webb, and A. Hudson; W. Dix and W. Hall; H. Berry, N. Hayes, A. Lodge, J. Meadows, S. Smart, G. Vears, F. Pegler, and G. Holford.

Stroud. — H. Smith; F. E. Chapman, C. Smith, G. Tyler, and R. Marchant; E. Bridgeman and W. Hill; Westbury, Dudbridge, L. Smith, H. Farmiloe, B. Marchant, N. Marchant, R. Kirby, and F. Wheeler.

F. W. Hayward and W. Jones dropped out of the original Stroud team, the former to play full-back for Gloucester. Thus the Gothamites were deprived of two brilliant centres, and the third line was completed by the withdrawal of C. Smith and G. Tyler from the forward and half-back positions, Tyler's place being taken by W. Hill, of the Cainscross club.

The teams fielded at 4 o'clock, half an hour after the advertised time of starting.

From the start play was fast and open, Gloucester's passing being excellent. Webb made a fine dash down the right wing, but was splendidly collared by C. Smith. Later, brilliant passing and re-passing resulted in Dix scoring a lovely try. Hayward failed at goal.

Gloucester were too clever for Stroud, who were weak at half, Dix having an afternoon out. Following another splendid bout of handling, Webb got over in the corner. Hayward made a fine attempt to add the extra points, the ball just falling short.

Shortly Stroud, led by Bridgeman, got to the other end where, however, their stay was short. Gloucester quickly returned to the attack. The defence, however, was sound, though it was severely tested. Eventually Hudson got over in the corner from a pass by Hall, though the point was doubtful. Hayward failed at the place kick.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester 3 tries (9 points)
Stroud Nil

Wathern[*sic*] restarted, the ball dropping into touch in the corner. The Gloucester front beautifully walked the scrum several yards, and finally the visitors rushed to the centre. Stroud got down once or twice, but luck was dead against them, and, moreover, the defence was as sound as a bell.

In a few minutes the Citizens again got going, and had Stroud whacked at practically every point of the game, but a glaring fault with them was forward passing, which deprived them of one or two tries. Two or three other movements were also spoilt by a knock-on at the critical moment.

From a kick down the ground Chapman picked up in the loose and made a strong attempt to get through, but was overwhelmed by numbers, and brought down near the line. Gloucester relieved, and by a series of forward bursts got to Stroud's 25, where Lodge ran over after a pass from a three-quarter. Hayward converted.

Gloucester were playing a beautiful game, and were more than value for the points scored.

RESULT :

Gloucester ... 1 goal 3 tries (14 points)
Stroud Nil

JC