

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1912

RUGBY

GLOUCESTER v ABERTILLERY

CITY TEAM'S MOTOR CAR TRIP

ONE CAR FAILS TO ARRIVE

GLOUCESTER PLAY FOUR SUBSTITUTES

Gloucester had one more chance to-day of gaining a victory in Wales, when they met Abertillery on the latter's ground for the return game. Owing to the dislocated train service the City team made the journey to Abertillery by motor car, and the departure of the party from Westgate-street was witnessed by a large crowd of spectators. Five cars were chartered from Messrs. Stretton's, Worcester-street, and a start was made shortly after 12.30.

Gloucester were well represented, though W. Hall (suffering with a boil on his neck), N. Hayes (nursing a blistered foot), and L. Hamblin (with a damaged knee) were unable to play. The vacancies were filled by bringing up Stanley Cook to outside half, and introducing F. Webb, who made such a promising debut against Stroud, in the three-quarter line.

A trial was also given to M. G. Turland, the old Cheltenham Training College centre. Abertillery fielded a good side, and there was every prospect of a keen contest.

One of the cars conveying the team failed to reach Abertillery, and Gloucester turned out without Cook (back), Webb, and Smart; Abertillery kindly finding four substitutes. There was a medium gate when the teams turned out at 5.30.

The opening stages were contested in neutral territory for some time, until James cut right through for Abertillery. Hudson intercepted cleverly, however, and saved a certain score. Abertillery continued to press, and Marsh dropped a goal.

HALF-TIME SCORE :
Abertillery 1 goal (d)
Gloucester Nil

[For a full report on the above match see the Citizen, Monday, 15 April, 1912]

GLOUCESTER A v. BREAM.

At Kingsholm, this being the concluding match of the season. The City Seconds were very weak, owing to various causes, the absentees including J. Harris (capt.), F. Webb, W. Staunton, F. Bloxsome, C. Mumford, F. Pegler, and H. Cook. Bream had the assistance of Baker and Robbins of Cinderford.

Gloucester. – F. W. Hayward; F. Yates, Cannock, Wilkes, and C. Cummings; Watts and W. Rigby; S. Millard, F. Westbury, Dovey, A. Banner, Stafford, Osborne, A. Cook, and G. Lane.

Bream. – T. Stone; J. Kent, V. Saunders, J. Price, and A. Robbins; A. Jenkins and J. Baker; A. Holes, A. Adams, A. Saunders, W. Robbins, W. Edwards, F. Haines, T. Davies, and G. Hughes.

Referee : Mr. Vowles (Bristol).

Gloucester started against the sun, but after a brief visit to the visitors' half Bream got down to the Seconds' 25. Heeling smartly, Baker got the ball away nicely, but the passing behind broke down. A good rush by the City forwards changed the venue, but play was scrambling and of little interest. Bream came back with a passing bout, and later the forwards rushed right down to Hayward, and a score looked likely. The ball, however, rolled awkwardly, and the line was saved.

Off-side by Gloucester gave Bream a penalty in a good position but Stone's shot for goal was a poor one. A loose rush by the Seconds' front brought much needed relief, and Bream were in turn forced to defend. Weak play by the City lost their position, and then Baker initiated a smart round of passing, which ended in Robbins being tackled just outside.

Westbury led the home team out to midfield, but from a mark Bream gained a footing in the City 25. Here Baker threw out a wide pass to Saunders, who cut out a fine opening, but passed badly. Bream had another good chance a minute later, but again failed. However, from a scrum close in Baker gathered and sent to Robbins, who put Price over unopposed. Stone failed at goal.

On the resumption Bream continued to prove the stronger side, the scratch lot doing duty for the Seconds being outplayed all round. Saunders might have scored himself after a good dash, but passed badly, and the ball went to touch. On the other wing Price was more successful, crossing easily from a pass by Robbins. No goal resulted.

Gloucester forced a minor on the re-start, and then the interval was called.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Bream 2 tries
Gloucester Nil

Bream re-started, and the Foresters at once showed superiority, their forwards being altogether too powerful for the home front. Yates brought relief with a nice kick, and Westbury, from a line out, broke clean away to the full-back, but his pass was not accepted.

Bream were penalised for wilfully knocking the ball on to save, but Hayward's drop for goal went wide, and Robbins ran out and kicked to touch. Gloucester, however, got back, thanks to a well-judged touch-finder by Hayward, and later the Bream line had a narrow escape in the corner. The Seconds did better after this, and a try ought to have followed a dash by Dovey, but the transfer was missed.

Bream were subjected to severe pressure for the next few minutes, but Gloucester showed no scoring ability. From a move by Watts, however, a try ought to have resulted, but Rigby was held up on the line and could not ground the ball. Bream cleared subsequently, and Baker breaking away smartly, a round of passing left the ball with Price, who scored behind the posts. Baker added the goal points.

From the re-start Baker again opened out, but Westbury intercepted and galloped for the line. He was tackled from behind, but in the scramble which followed Banner scored. Hayward failed at goal.

Gloucester replied with a big burst on the drop out, and the ball being taken over the line Westbury touched down, but there had been a previous infringement. Gloucester played up strongly, and Millard breaking away from a line out ran and passed to Dovey, who crossed in the corner. Hayward missed the goal.

From the drop-out Millard made another big dash, but his pass was not accepted, and soon after the end came.

RESULT :

Bream 1 goal 2 tries (11 points)

Gloucester A 2 tries (6 points)

REMARKS

Bream proved easily the better and stronger team all round, and the score at the finish rather flattered the Seconds. However, it was such a scratch lot doing duty for the A team, especially behind the scrum, that any other result would have come as a big surprise.

Westbury and Millard played capitally in the Gloucester forwards, but Hayward was the only player behind of any class. Bream fell off somewhat in the second half, but the tries they scored were the result of excellent passing.