

THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1912

RUGBY

GLOUCESTER v DEVON ALBION

WEAK TEAM AT DEVONPORT

BEATEN BY A DROPPED GOAL

Gloucester were engaged in their last fixture of the season to-day, when they journeyed to Devonport to meet the Albion. It was a weak team that did duty for the City, only three regular forwards being available – Vears, Johns, Lodge, Berry, Hayes, and Pegler all being absent. Behind, L. Hamblin and Washbourne were missing, Staunton and F. Webb, of the Seconds, filling the vacancies.

Devon Albion were also short of good men; Monk and Pope.

Gloucester. – C. Cook, back; A. Hudson (capt.), S. Cook, W. Staunton, F. Webb, three-quarter backs; W. Dix, W. Hall, half-backs; A. Cook, F. Simmonds, F. Yates, G. Holford, W. Dovey, S. Smart, J. Meadows, C. Mumford, forwards.

Devon Albion. – F. J. Lillicrap, back; A. W. Hoar, A. Hoskings, S. G. Harvey, F. Gilbert, three-quarter backs; A. Langmead, R. Jago, half-backs; D. Hollands, C. Marshall, E. Lee, T. Hayman, E. Gardner, C. Waye, H. Hoskings, A. Gatzias, forwards.

THE GAME

There were 5,000 spectators. Gloucester started, and were helped to attack through the fine kicking of C. Cook. Splendid passing by the Albion backs severely tested the visiting defence, but it prevailed. Dix set his quarters going, but S. Cook knocked on.

Lengthy punts to touch put Gloucester in a good position, scrums ensuing five yards from the line. A penalty from the visitors somewhat eased the pressure, but they returned through the medium of their backs.

Jago set his backs away, and Hoar, after a great effort, set play in the visitors' half. Gloucester were penalised, but Lillicrap's kick failed, and Hall punted to the centre. Gloucester for some time attacked till nippy work by Jago changed the venue. Lillicrap, with a penalty, sent play near the Gloucester line, but C. Cook sent play to the centre with a splendid punt to touch.

The Albion held the upper hand for a time, but could not pierce the defence. Exchange kicks between the backs ended in favour of the visitors. Passing by the Gloucester backs almost led to the downfall of the line, a forward pass spoiling the movement. A forward burst by the home pack was nullified by Hudson.

A further handling movement by the Albion gained little ground. Gloucester were penalised and the resultant kick set the homesters on the attack. Clever work at the base of the scrum by Dix regained the ground. S. Cook, intercepting a round of passing by the homesters, raced away and beat the opposition and scored a fine unconverted try.

Stung with this reverse, the Albion attacked hotly, but Hall and S. Cook defended splendidly. A penalty against Gloucester went in favour of the visitors. The home backs started passing, but Jenkins' transfer to Hoar was poor, and the winger had to turn to touch. Gloucester held a well-deserved lead of three points at the interval.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Gloucester | 1 try |
| Devon Albion | Nil |

The Albion restarted, and early attacked. Jago gave his three-quarters a chance, but poor passing spoiled the movement, although Hall was forced to save. A splendid burst by the Albion forwards caused trouble, but Hall repelled the movement in splendid style. A home player was fouled, but Lillicrap's kick fell a trifle wide.

Albion's forwards made a fine effort to get through, but Dix, with clever kicks, eased the pressure considerably, although Gilbert regained the ground with a similar effort.

Hoar had a splendid chance from a throw-in, but C. Cook cleverly stopped the winger. Jago got away from a scrum and passed inwards, but luckily Hall was about, and kicked to touch. However, after a splendid round of passing, Hoar went over in the corner with a splendid unconverted try.

Albion were doing better now, and fine passing by their backs saw Harvey rushed to touch on the 25 line. Cook eventually saved.

Fine foot-work by the Gloucester forwards carried the game to the centre, but passing between Langmead and Jenkins[*sic*] regained the ground.

An injury to Mumford caused delay. Gardner had a good chance, but hesitated, and Staunton securing fed Hall, who punted to touch well out.

Splendid work by S. Cook and Dix put Gloucester in a good attacking position, but through a penalty awarded against them Lillicrap punted to the centre. Hudson cleverly intercepted a round of passing by the home team. Mumford returned at this juncture.

Splendid work by Dix helped Gloucester to assume the attack, but Langmead started passing from which Gilbert punted from well out. Hall regained the ground with splendid work. After a lengthy Albion attack Gilbert dropped a splendid goal.

The Albion were soon at it again, but Hall cleverly applied the closure to many moves. As the result of passing Harvey set Albion on the attack.

RESULT :

Albion 1 goal (d) 1 try (7 points)
Gloucester 1 try (3 points)

REMARKS

Gloucester gave the Albion a roughing game throughout. There was keen rivalry between the packs, both sides doing well both in the loose portions and in the scrums.

Outside Gloucester were the smarter team, Hall playing cleverly and giving his backs plenty of chances. S. and C. Cook were prominent for lengthy kicking, whilst the former caused anxiety frequently by swerving runs.

The Albion improved greatly in the second half, but never appeared steady in attack.

JC