

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

DECEMBER 21, 1901

FOOTBALL

NORTH v. SOUTH

The contest between sides representing the North and South, at Fallowfield, Manchester, on Saturday, was really a trial game to guide the Rugby Union in selecting a Rest of England team to meet Devon, last year's champion county, at Exeter next Saturday.

The North gained a hollow victory by 20 points to 6, a result not altogether unexpected, but it was never thought the South would suffer defeat by so large a margin of points. In the loose, the North forwards were very dangerous, and although for a time the South front line managed to keep the ball close in the packs, the repeated rushes of the home side at length told their tale. This was more particularly the case in the second half, when Alexander and Cobbey were very conspicuous.

Terry early on let in the South, and Brooks, from Eberle's pass, scored the first try. Immediately afterwards Simpson got over cleverly for the North, who, by reason of Taylor converting, led at half-time by 5 points to 3.

In the second half the South were kept defending for the greater part of the time. Cobbey, Terry, and Harrison, in turn crossed the line for the North, and as Taylor in each case converted, the accumulation of points was not surprising.

Towards the close, the South seemed to be imbued with fresh energy, and from a rush Brooks scored another unimproved try for them. The display of the South, however, was very disappointing. Passing the poor form of Horsley and Goudge, Brooks could be said to have been the pick of the three-quarter line.

Baker (Gloucestershire) played below his form, the only redeeming feature of his work being his tackling. At half-back Walton and Buck did not combined well, while the forwards, although packing well, did not possess the same amount of fire as the opposing eight.

Dudgeon, Hartley, Fraser, and Osborne, were the most prominent.

JC