

THE CITIZEN

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1901

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. BATH

BATH OUTPLAYED

HANDSOME WIN FOR GLOUCESTER

The return match between these clubs was played at Bath. Gloucester, with a very weak team, defeated the Somerset club at Kingsholm a few weeks ago by 21 points to 3, and anticipated another comfortable win to-day. With the exception of Essex for Spiers, the City team was identical with the side which drew with the Old Merchant Taylors on Boxing Day.

The Gloucester team was : G. Romans, back; C. Smith, J. Cook, J. Stephens, and F. Rooke, three-quarter backs; R. Goddard and G. Hall, half-backs; C. Hall, A. H. Click, F. Westbury, F. Oswell, J. Gough, E. Essex, J. Merchant, and J. Jewell, forwards.

Bath had several disappointments at the last moment, it being known that Marsh and Hignell could not play.

Haddock started for Bath, and after some forward rushes Gloucester scored through "Whacker" Smith, who went over in the right corner. Romans failed to convert, the ball not rising.

Cook made a splendid swerving run on the re-start right through a host of Bathonians, but was tackled on the line. Bath dribbled out of danger, but Gloucester, through three-quarter work, again attacked. Several combined rushes by the Gloucester forwards were dangerous, but they lost the ball on the Bath goal line, and nothing resulted.

Bartlett was tackled under his goal line, and losing the leather, Jewell picked it up and scored under the posts, Romans having no difficulty converting. Bath was *[sic]* completely puzzled by Gloucester's brilliant outside work.

Bath showed up finely until half-time, and no more scoring was seen.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester 1 goal, 1 try
Bath Nil

Gloucester were in Bath's quarter directly after the re-start, and though Bartlett dribbled away the visitors, by fine outside combination, made matters hot for Bath. Cook broke through grandly, and gave to "Whacker" Smith, who secured another try, right under the sticks, which Romans converted with ease.

The game now slowed down slightly, but Gloucester continued to have the better of matters. Bath were penalised under their goal, but Romans missed the mark. Bartlett was penalised for waiting off-side, and this time Romans succeeded in landing a penalty goal.

Rooke, intercepting the ball, grandly raced away, and this time Parsons, the Bath full back, was eluded, and Rooke scored in the corner. Romans landed a goal by a grand kick.

On resuming, Hall dodged in under the posts, Romans again converting. Bath broke away at the finish, but it was too late, and Gloucester won handsomely.

RESULT :

Gloucester 5 goals (1 p), 1 try (26 points)
Bath Nil