

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

JANUARY 25, 1902

FOOTBALL

GLOUCESTER v. OLD EDWARDIANS

The well-known West Country Club paid their annual visit to Wake Green, on Saturday last, and although they had to make the journey without C. Smith, L. Smith, Goddard, and Gough, so rich are they in capable reserves, that they were enabled to place a good fifteen in the field.

Gloucester kicked off, and it really looked as if the Old Boys were going to give their rivals a hard game. Ravenhill was nearly through with a clever bit of footwork, Stephens just saving in time; while soon afterwards Nicol worked a fine opening, only to see it spoilt by Manton passing wildly to Bowater.

The visitors retaliated with some determined attacks, and after a bout of clever passing initiated by G. Hall, Clutterbuck simply romped over with the first try, but the place kick was too difficult for Romans to succeed in adding the goal points. From now up to the interval the visitors had much the better of the game, G. Hall and Stephens being especially quick at half, the three-quarters consequently getting ample opportunities of showing their undoubted ability.

The second try – scored by Collett – was the tit-bit of the afternoon, as getting possession from Stephens in mid-field the Cantab made tracks up the left wing, and having drawn the defence, he suddenly swerved and scored in the extreme right corner. Romans failed with the place-kick.

This was quickly followed by two further tries by Rooke and C. Hall, and at half-time the Westerners were leading by four tries (12 points) to none.

The second half was opened with a strong attack by the Gloucester forwards, and after some clever dribbling by Hawker, Spiers scored the fifth try, Romans easily converting. Immediately on resuming, the Old Boys made their best effort of the game, and just as Nicol appeared certain to score, Romans dashed in and kicked dead.

Up till now, Marston, for so young a player, had performed creditably at full-back, but a very weak return led up to Westbury scoring another try; while before the close further tries were added by G.. Hall and C. Hall. Romans was successful with two of the place kicks, the final score thus being Gloucester three goals five tries (30 points), Old Edwardians nil.

That the winners fully deserved their victory there can be no doubt, but the Old Boys are entitled to praise for the plucky style in which they stood up to their formidable opponents.

The Gloucester backs fully upheld their reputation for their clever play, while the forwards, ably led by the International (C. Hall), are a fast and determined pack.

Romans was not highly tried at full-back, but enough was seen of him to show that he is a player of exceptional ability. He possesses a rare turn of speed, while his kicking is very sure.

GLOUCESTER (A) v. LYDNEY

This match was played before a fairly large attendance at Gloucester on Saturday last. Play in the opening half was very exciting, Goddard scoring an unconverted try for Gloucester, whilst Bayliss registered one for the visitors, from which major points were obtained.

The second half was splendidly contested, but despite determined efforts by both sides, nothing was scored until towards the finish, when Goss got over for Lydney, the place-kick being successful. The homesters failed to add to their initial half score, so were beaten by two goals to a try.

GLOUCESTER v. LEICESTER

The following team will represent Gloucester to-day (Saturday) : –

G. Romans, back; Lewis Smith, J. Cook, G. F. Collett, and G. F. Clutterbuck, three-quarter backs; G. Hall and J. Stephens, half-backs; C. Hall, A. H. Click, F. Oswell, F. Westbury, J. Jewell, A. Hawker, B. Parham, and C. H. Harris, forwards.

JC