

# GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

MARCH 29, 1902

## FOOTBALL AND ATHLETICS

Relieved of the cares of the cup competition, Coventry were able to fulfil an engagement with Gloucester, in return for a visit to the Western City. The Gloucester Club sent a good side, only Collett being unable to make the journey. His place was taken by Rooke. Coventry were without George Tuke and Reggie Orton. The services of Paling and Randle, of Nuneaton, were secured, but the three-quarter line was weak throughout the game, and no match for the opposing quartette.

L. Smith showed how powerful he is when once set going, and secured twice in the first half; he passed nearly the whole of the Coventry team during one of his runs. The home forwards offered a stubborn resistance, and saved their side from an overwhelming defeat. Their play was very fine, but the passing frequently broke down among the backs. The teams crossed over with Gloucester nine points in hand.

The second half was productive also of three tries, scored by G. Smith, Goddard, and C. Smith, one of which Romans converted. One goal out of six attempts was much below the famous Western full-back's average.

The half-back play was remarkable by its contrast. Warth and Chamberlain were all for kicking, while Godard and G. Hall thought of nothing but feeding their three-quarters. Romans was altogether a different class full-back to Hollins, who was slow in tackling, though safe in his returns. The game was vigorous without being fast, Coventry finding it to their advantage to keep the ball amongst their forwards as much as possible.

Cleaver, Piggott, Cleverly, and Arch, were conspicuous for untiring energy in the home front rank, while C. Hall, Click, and G. H. Smith, were noticeable amongst the visiting bunch.

JC