

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

NOVEMBER 22, 1902

FOOTBALL AND SPORT

Gloucester will not readily forget their visit to Cardiff last Saturday, where they suffered defeat more by the aid of luck than the superior play of their opponents. Chances almost too numerous to mention were thrown away, and had it not been for sterling play on the part of Nicholls and Winfield, Cardiff must have been rather badly beaten, that is, if the Gloucester men had taken advantage of the opportunities that came their way.

Besides losing the game, Gloucester had the misfortune to have Hawker ordered off the field for rough play. It seems that towards the close, the player mentioned lost his temper, and struck out at a Cardiff forward.

The match attracted 10,000 spectators. The visitors were the first to attack, but missed a couple of good chances, and then from a penalty Winfield placed a goal for Cardiff, whilst just before the interval Litchfield added an unconverted try. Nothing was scored after the change of ends, so that Cardiff won by a penalty goal and a try (6 points) to nil.

Parham and Keys combined fairly well at half, and were better than the Cardiff pair. Stephens did a lot of fumbling, his mistakes losing his side at least a couple of tries. Whacker Smith once more showed in defensive work, and Vears performed very creditably.

Collett was also very prominent in defence. Where Gloucester three-quarters were at fault was in attack. Here they went all to pieces, their movements lacking finish. Romans played a very good game at back.

As to the forwards, well we prefer to quote the words of a centre in Wednesday's "Sportsman," rather than give our own. He says : – "Cardiff's match against Gloucester was as 'brisk' as the most ardent football enthusiast could desire. It was never a very interesting exposition of Rugby football, however, and was remarkable but for one thing, which was the ludicrous manner in which the Gloucester forwards lost their heads – and by doing so lost the game."

JC