

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

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FOOTBALL AND SPORT

CLIFTON v. GLOUCESTER

Owing to the County calls for the Devon match, Gloucester had to reply on their "A" team for several men for the Clifton match; but they proved just a little too good for the Cliftonians. The ground was in a wretched condition, rain falling heavily when a start was made.

The game needs little description. Clifton commenced very well, and for some time play was confined to the forwards. Gradually the Gloucester men got to work, and one or two fine passing movements were seen. Collett and Vears were responsible for a pretty lot of work, which ended in the latter getting over right under the posts. Purton added the extra points.

Clifton now played very keenly, but were forced back into their own quarters. They came again, however, and for some time kept the 'Cestrians busily employed. Pugh, however, was very safe. No further scoring took place in the initial half.

Soon after resuming, Morgan, the Gloucester half-back, was injured, and had to leave the field. Clifton made the most of their weight; but they were beaten by the better combination of their opponents. The ground was in a wretched state, and as the ball was very greasy, accurate play was of course out of all question. "Whacker" Smith added to the Gloucester score from a determined rush, but Collett failed with the place kick.

Gloucester more than held their own up to the finish, and were the better team on the day's play. Clifton were very good forward, but were outclassed at three-quarter and half. The score of 1 goal 1 try (8 points) about represents the difference between the teams.

The following were the teams : –

Gloucester : F. Pugh (back); L. Vears, J. Stephens, G. F. Collett, C. Smith (three-quarters); L. Morgan, F. Keys (halves); G. H. Smith, F. Westbury, Peglar, W. Essex, T. Spiers, G. Bland, G. Vears, and A. Purton (forwards).

Clifton : F. O. Wills (back); S. B. Smith, J. H. Inskip, C. W. Baker, E. F. Eberle (three-quarters); D. A. Clark, G. H. Beloe (halves); S. B. Smith, A. J. Gardner, H. Clissold, H. J. Major, P. H. Thomas, S. Leathe, H. W. Millard, and E. C. Saville (forwards).

- The question of the qualification of county players (remarks the "Daily Mail") is one that has not at any time been rigorously dealt with by the governing authority. In view of the migratory habits of prominent footballers considerable latitude has been allowed, and if as a result of Somerset's action the technical qualification of players is rigidly enforced, many counties – Somerset among the number – will suffer considerably. In their first match – against Cornwall – the Somerset team included a man named Peters, who was born at Manchester, and has not at any time resided in the county of Somerset, but who while living in Gloucestershire, played for a Somersetshire Club.