

# GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

MARCH 7, 1903

FOOTBALL AND SPORT

GLOUCESTER v. CARDIFF

The visit of Cardiff to Gloucester only attracted some 2,500 spectators, less than half the number frequently seen at previous matches. Gloucester had a very weak team out, Romans, Morgan, and Goulding being absent through injuries. In regard to the latter, it is said that the recent injury he met with while at work has put an end to his football career. This is a severe loss to Gloucester, inasmuch as the ex-soldier was the pick of the vanguard. A collection for his benefit was made on the ground.

Cardiff had also several prominent men away, notably Gwyn Nicholls and Cecil Biggs. At the same time, however, they fielded a strong fifteen. Winning the toss, Winfield took advantage of the strong wind blowing from goal to goal, Gloucester also having the sun in their faces. Cardiff started very strongly, the forwards wheeling the first scrummage finely, Gloucester being early on called upon to defend, the play for some time being closely contested in the home "25."

For some infringement Gloucester were penalised, and Winfield landed a good goal. Maintaining the pressure, the passing of the three-quarters being very smart, Northmore got over near the posts, and Winfield goaled.

Resuming, Cardiff continued to have all the play, Thomas winding up a bout of beautiful passing by getting over in the corner. The ball, however, appeared to have been out on the other side, and the score was not allowed.

Gloucester seldom crossed the centre line, and just prior to the interval Jones dropped a couple of goals. Up to now Gloucester had been outplayed at all points.

With the wind and sun at their backs Gloucester improved considerably, whereas Cardiff fell off somewhat. The backs, however, were playing a safe game, and succeeded in keeping Gloucester at bay.

Parham made a mark in a good position, and for charging before the ball was put down Collett had a free kick, and he landed a neat goal. Shortly afterwards "Whacker" Smith took advantage of a mis-kick on the part of Thomas, and ran over with Winfield on his back. The place kick failed.

Urged on by their supporters, Gloucester struggled on gamely but there is no doubt about it that they were facing a vastly superior team to themselves.

Several times Cardiff opened out the game, and by the aid of clever and pretty passing got dangerously near scoring. Once Bush easily got the better of Gloucester's defence, but a forward pass robbed him of a well-merited score. In the end Cardiff won handsomely.

It was a remarkable game to watch, and it is worthy of note that the score included the largest number of field goals obtained on the Kingsholm [ground] this season.

The tackling at times was a little too vigorous to be pleasant, players on both sides losing their tempers and even exchanging blows.

Of the Cardiff three-quarters Jones was the pick, and Collett has never played a better game for Gloucester, while Hudson, the new wing man, shaped very well. Winfield gave a splendid exhibition at full back, in which position Rooke was very weak.

The "gate" only amounted to £50.

The teams were : –

Gloucester : F. Rooke (back), A. Hudson, J. Stephens, G. F. Collett, and C. Smith (three-quarter backs), B. Parham and F. Keys (half-backs), A. H. Click, A. Hawker, G. H. Smith, F. Oswell, A. Purton, W. Johns, F. Pegler, and J. Jewell (forwards).

Cardiff : H. B. Winfield (back), D. Thomas, W. Jones, P. F. Bush, and S. Rees (three-quarter backs), G. Hughes and C. Kestrell (half-backs), G. Northmore, A. Spackman, W. Neill, W. Jenkins, J. Brown, H. Hutchings, P. S. Smith, and P. C. Owens (forwards).

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