

# GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

SEPTEMBER 19, 1903

## FOOTBALL NOTES

The Gloucester Rugby Club opened the season on Saturday last with a match against Stroud, which proved fairly interesting. Both clubs were strongly represented, though both were without the support of some of their most prominent men. The home team was the greatest sufferer in this respect, George Romans, B. Parham, and G. H. Smith, being absent; while Stroud had to do without the assistance of Lewis Smith.

There was a good attendance, and the game was fairly interesting, but not brilliant. The visitors played strongly throughout, while the exhibition of the home side was not altogether encouraging, and at times quite disappointing. They scored a five point victory, a goal to nil, it is true, but this victory certainly cannot be taken as a mark of superiority on the part of the 'Cestrians.

The passing of the home side was for the most part erratic, and in the pack there was little cohesion. This is accounted for to some extent, perhaps, by the fact that the team was not at full strength, and that the season is so young; but this will hardly be accepted by the well-wishers of the Club as a full and sufficient explanation of the weak display given. Stroud played a really plucky game, and if they maintain the form shown on Saturday, will come out well at the end of the season.

The premier fifteen journey to Coventry to-day, and it will be seen whether the opening bout will have acted as a tonic, as semi-failures often do in football as in other things. The second string will engage Barnwood on the Kingsholm Ground, and a fair display may be confidently looked for.