

From "The Gloucester Journal" Saturday, September 15, 1888

## **ANNUAL MEETING OF GLOUCESTER FOOTBALL CLUB**

The annual general meeting of the Gloucester Football Club was held at the Ram Hotel on Monday evening, Mr. T. G. Smith presiding over a large attendance of members. Mr. H. J. Boughton, as one of the sub-committee appointed to try and procure a new ground, reported that they had done all they could with this end in view. They thought they had succeeded in obtaining Baddings Field, but, after negotiations were opened with the proprietor, the residents in London-road merporialised [\*] him, asking him on no consideration to let the ground to the Football Club, and so the negotiations were broken off. They then tried to get the field at the back of the station belonging to Mr. Vassar-Smith, but that gentleman informed them that he had promised the friends of the Home of Hope not to let the field to any sporting club. They then tried Beard's Field, Bristol-road, but learnt that if they had it they would have to leave at any time on receipt of 14 days' notice, as the land was up for sale in building lots. Having tried a place in Barton-street that was far too small, the matter dropped, and for the present the idea was given up.

Mr. H. B. Sloman suggested trying for a piece of land next to Linden-road, but the subject dropped without any resolution being arrived at.

*\* "merporialised"? The transcriber is 100% certain that this is what was printed in the Journal, but we've never come across this word before. It has been suggested that it might be a typo for "meroporialise", which in turn might come from the name Merops – "a Percosian augur (in the Iliad) who foresaw and unsuccessfully tried to prevent the death of his sons in the Trojan War". So there - that's perfectly clear then.*