

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1880.

FOOTBALL

Gloucestershire v. South Wales. — On Thursday the return match between these teams was played on the ground of the Cardiff Club.

Owing to a heavy fall of rain during the previous night, and slight showers which fell at intervals in the afternoon, the ground was rather soft and slippery, so that the quarter-backs had not favourable opportunity for the display of their capabilities, although several capital runs were made, Cowan and Bennett especially distinguishing themselves for Gloucestershire, and Sanders for South Wales.

The Gloucestershire team was representative, but South Wales unfortunately only played four of their team, the remainder being non-members of the South Wales Club, and in addition to this they played one man short, which is rather a reflection on the enthusiasm of the members, considering that the match was played in their own territory.

It will be seen below that the Newport club were not represented at all, which, taken together with the fact that they failed to put in an appearance the other day at Gloucester, is worthy of remark.

The Gloucester captain, having won the toss, elected to play with a strong wind. For the first quarter of an hour no advantage was gained by either side, and the teams appeared pretty evenly weighted, but F. Brown by a fine run took the ball close to the Welsh goal. Being collared he passed the leather to Bennett, who ran in and secured a try, which Miller converted into a goal.

Soon after the ball had been re-started W. Brown, by a splendid run, obtained another try, but this time the place by the Gloucestershire captain failed.

After half-time the play became a little more even, but the visitors still pressed the Welsh team hard, the former being so good at passing the ball and dribbling.

Just before the conclusion of the game a very fine specimen of passing was exhibited by the Gloucestershire team, the ball being passed through five hands, each being collared in turn.

At "no side" being called the score stood at one goal, one try, and six touchdowns for the visitors, to one touchdown.

The players were : —

Gloucestershire : J. D. Miller (Clifton), captain, and Berry (Gloucester), backs; Bennett (Gloucester) and Moberly (Clifton), three-quarter backs; J. F. Brown (Gloucester) and Cowan (Cheltenham), half-backs; Bush, Warren, Fry, Leonard, Scott (Clifton), Grimes, W. Brown (Gloucester), Hirst (Rocklease), and Cartwright (Stroud), forwards.

South Wales : Doggett (Swansea) and S. Clarke (Neath), backs; Carlyle (Swansea), three-quarter back; Sanders (Cardiff), captain, and Branfill (Neath), half-backs; Moxham, F. Clark, Meagre, Williams (Swansea), Mann, Spriggs, Thomas, Cooper, and Leybourne (Cardiff), forwards.