FOOTBALL.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY TRIAL MATCH.

This annual match was played at Gloucester on Saturday, the object of course being to introduce some "new blood" into the county team. The title of the game this year was changed from "North v. South" to "Caps v. Another Fifteen." In the absence of G. Cox, the captain of the County Club, Miller captained the old players, Berry acting in a like capacity for the "Other Fifteen," or "Whites."

Having tossed and lost, Berry kicked off from the northern goal, facing a bright sun. The ball being well returned, scrummaging began near the centre flag. It at once became evident that the forwards were evenly matched, as for some minutes the ball did not move half a dozen yards.

At length Leonard got through from the line and gained ground for the "Caps," but only for the ball to be brought back by a strong rush by Baker, Hawkins, and Brimmell. From the ensuing squash Ward slipped up and sprained his ankle, compelling him to retire for the rest of the game, J. F. Brown taking his place at half-back.

Ball, by a short run and punt into touch, caused the game to be taken into the "Whites" twenty-five, and soon afterwards they touched down. This they repeated several times, generally from long kicks by Boughton, Miller, and Jones; a good shot at goal by the first-named only just missing the post.

Quarrel and Phillips about now played up very hard, and several times raced round, only to be stopped, however, by the safe tackling of Adams and Miller.
Baker, too, was playing very finely, and the "Caps" were gradually forced back to their twenty-five. Here, however, the "county" made a determined stand, and by the unceasing efforts of Cameron, Dewey, and Peck, the ball was once more taken up the ground past the Pavilion, and into touch, near the line. Ball threw it out splendidly, and Brown catching it ran in. The place was tried by Boughton, who kicked a goal. Nothing further happened till half-time was called.

The teams having crossed over, Miller kicked off, and Helps dropped back into touch. The game for some time was almost confined to the forwards, Savory, Peck, Cooke, Bayley, and W. Brown for the "Caps," and Baldwin, Halsey, "Thomas," and Smith for the "Whites," putting in a lot of useful work. The latter had a little the better of the play, and aided by runs by Quarrell, Grist, and Wills, carried the game to the county's ground.

A long drop and follow up by Miller, and a very fine dribble by Cameron, took the ball to the other end, where Ball made a strong attempt to get in, but was held by Berry. Jones, however, was on the alert, and from a long throw out scored, from a good pass by Boughton. The place was very difficult, and failed.

The "Caps" continued to press the "Others," notwithstanding the strong forward play of Baker, Green, and several others, and Adams from a wide pass made a strong run in. Miller made a fine shot at goal from the hard place, but the ball fell short.

The game progressed with varying fortune, the forwards playing faster and looser than before, but "no-side" came without any addition having been made to the score. The old players thus won a very good game by one goal and two tries to nothing.

The pick of the forwards were Baker, Cameron, Dewey, Leonard, and Cooke, while behind Miller, Boughton, Jones, Ball, Adams, Quarrell, and Phillips played exceedingly well for their respective sides.
Several very good new men were unearthed, and undoubtedly the County will be much strengthened by their help.


The "Other XV." − H. J. Berry (captain) (Gloucester), back; M. Wills (Bristol University), R. L. Grist (Stroud), Quarrell (Clifton), three-quarter backs; W. H. Phillips (Newent), G. C. Helps (Bristol Medicals), half-backs; W. Brimmell, T. G. Smith, H. "Thomas," S. Halsey (Gloucester), H. C. Baker (Bristol University), A. Halsey, C. Boughton (Tewkesbury), W. S. Hankins, W. Baldwin, W. Green (Newent), forwards.

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