

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

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FOOTBALL NOTES.

[BY HALF-BACK]

One of the most uninteresting football matches that has taken place in Gloucester for some time past was that which was witnessed on Saturday between Gloucestershire and Cornwall at Kingsholm. It was a fight for the proverbial "wooden spoon" in the South-Western championship group, as both teams had previously succumbed to Devon and Somerset.

Dash was completely out of the question, while combination and open play was conspicuous by its absence. The match was characterised by plenty of grovelling on the ground, and was utterly devoid of running and dribbling, which one is expected to witness in a county match.

Cornwall had a strong fifteen out, including three Oxford University players, and E. L. Hammond, who last year played for Devon, also turned out for the visitors. On the other hand, W. H. Watts, A. Collins, and Devonshire were the only absentees on the home side.

The game was a mere farce, more especially so on the part of Gloucestershire, and a few more such exhibitions would lower the reputation of any third-rate club to the depths of mediocre. And why this should have been so it is difficult to understand, because it could not have been that Gloucestershire held their opponents too cheaply, as last season a team picked from almost junior clubs defeated the Cornish men easily.

I must admit that to a certain extent the Bristol contingent was largely at fault, notwithstanding that no fewer than seven players were taking part in the game.

Take away Bowley, Birch, and Fenner, there was not another player from the Bristol Club worthy a place in the county team. As it was Gloucestershire just managed to struggle home by a goal and a try to a penalty goal after a miserable exhibition.

JC