

# GLOUCESTERSHIRE CHRONICLE

NOVEMBER 26, 1898.

## FOOTBALL ITEMS.

Saturday marked the thirteenth meeting of Gloucestershire and Devonshire, and as Gloucestershire had lost the last six matches in succession, it was felt that they had little chance of winning, especially as several of their best men were on the sick list, and the match was on Devon soil.

But the prophets in a degree were wrong, as the result was a draw without any score. From a spectators point of view the game was the most exciting that has ever been played between the counties, though from a critical aspect it did not reach quite such a high standard of excellence as that shown at Bristol last year.

The forwards bore the brunt of the attack all through, the back play being conspicuously absent. Twice only was back combination apparent, and on each occasion it was the visiting backs who were prominent in this respect.

On the first occasion Parsons (Bristol) ran clean over the line, but was tackled in touching down, and lost the ball. This was very hard luck for Gloucestershire, for the movement was a brilliant one, Nichols (Cardiff) having made a splendid opening for the Bristol man.

Devon held a telling advantage in the scrummage work, but were beaten in possession all through the game. Behind, the home county were greatly inferior, and with anything like adequate feeding Gloucestershire would undoubtedly have won with ease.