

# THE CITIZEN

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1906.

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL.

GLOUCESTER v. CINDERFORD.

THE RETURN MATCH.

CITY TEAM IN THE FOREST.

HARD GAME ENDS IN A POINTLESS DRAW.

CINDERFORD FORWARDS IN FORM.

CITY THREE-QUARTERS OFF COLOUR.

The return friendly between Gloucester and Cinderford, at Cinderford, aroused great interest in Forest football circles.

Cinderford were badly beaten at Kingsholm a few weeks ago, but at home they were expected to make a much closer fight.

Gloucester were unfortunately deprived of the services of both their wing three-quarters (Hudson and Smith), and Gordon Vears also stood down.

Romans and L. Vears filled the vacancies in the third line, and Wood took the full-back position.

Cinderford had Rhodes (centre three-quarter) away, and Leighton played for Hyndman.

The teams were : —

GLOUCESTER.	Positions.	CINDERFORD.
A. E. Wood	Backs.	H. Hyett
L. Vears	Three-Quarter	W. Smith (capt.)
E. Hall	Backs.	H. Smith
J. Harrison	"	J. Wright
G. Romans	"	O. Burgham
D. Gent	Half-Backs.	T. Willstead
J. Stephens	"	F. Niblett
W. Johns (capt.)	"	A. Teague
G. Matthews	Forwards.	H. Ridler
A. Hawker	"	G. Bowkett
H. Collins	"	J. Watkins
W. Holder	"	H. Trafford
B. Parham	"	A. Redding
F. Pegler	"	H. Williams
J. Merchant	"	G. Leighton

Referee : Mr. W. Bowen (Cardiff).

### THE GAME.

The weather was gloriously fine, and there was a good attendance of spectators, including about a hundred from Gloucester. Cinderford won the toss, and the City started ten minutes late. There was a good return to touch, and from the throw-out the Cinderford forwards gained twenty yards with a good burst. Gent punted back, but the Foresters returned with another good rush, which was only checked on the quarter line.

Niblett broke away cleverly from a scrum, but was stopped when looking dangerous, a Gloucester man being laid out in effecting a tackle. Play was soon resumed, and Gent and Stephens relieved with a useful dribble. Operations were mainly forward and confined to the Gloucester half. The City eventually opened out, but the attack was easily stopped.

A good kick by Harrison was followed up by Vears, who took the ball on the bounce, but was pulled down by W. Smith. Romans next kicked down, the ball going past Hyett, but the latter recovered cleverly with an overhead punt. Gloucester were dangerous for a minute, but Cinderford broke away to the other end with neat passing.

Centre play followed, the Cinderford forwards showing up with good footwork. A neat punt by Stephens to Hyett saw the latter collared by Harrison, but the home forwards got back and saved. Niblett, with good kicks, checked a couple of bursts by the City forwards, but a minute later Harrison cut through beautifully from a pass by Stephens. He handed on to Vears, who punted, but Cinderford warded off a dangerous attack.

The Foresters worked out to more favourable quarters, only to see Gloucester get back with passing. Romans raced down and fielded a kick by Hall, but Burgham stopped him. The Gloucester forwards heeled several times, but the backs could not get set going. Well-judged kicking by Hyett transferred play to the Gloucester 25.

Stephens was instrumental in again changing the venue, but play, though keenly contested, was lacking in incident. Hawker, with a big punt, sent to Hyatt, who was pulled down by the Gloucester forwards, but Cinderford saved the situation. Gloucester soon afterwards made another attack, but Cinderford held their own, the tackling being exceptionally close. Soon afterwards half-time was called with no score.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester .....	Nil
Cinderford .....	Nil

Cinderford resumed with the slope in their favour, and play settled at the centre. From a throw-out Hall dashed through, but Burgham replied with a strong burst. The ball getting loose the Cinderford forwards got away in a body, but Wood checked them cleverly. A slight delay here occurred owing to Burgham receiving a blow in the face, but he was soon able to continue.

Cinderford at once put in a dashing rush, and Willstead made a grand effort to cross, but he was held up in time. Gloucester luckily relieved through a mistake by Niblett, but they were not allowed to travel far.

Gent at length punted clear to beyond the centre, where Hyett only got in a weak return. The Cinderford forwards, with an irresistible rush, worked back, Vears and Pegler saving in turn.

A bad pass by Harrison went astray, and Willstead dribbled through and over the line, Wood saving in the nick of time. Gloucester made headway on a drop-out, but a wild pass by Gent lost twenty yards. With a mark kick Hall found touch beyond midfield, but the game was immediately taken to the Gloucester end.

Cinderford just now were beating the Gloucester forwards badly, and the City were hotly pressed. Wood saved with a flying kick when near the line, and in the next minute Gent luckily cleared. The game continued to go in favour of Cinderford, who worked desperately for a score.

For off-side play Gloucester were penalised, but Trafford's kick was charged down, and the visitors got to the centre line. Niblett saved a rush of the Gloucester forwards in plucky style, in doing which he sustained a kick, but was not disabled.

The ensuing play was of an even character, but Gloucester at length opened, and Hall made a brilliant run. A fine opening presented itself, but Romans was too slow to take advantage. For an infringement Cinderford were penalised, Romans' shot for goal just failing.

Gloucester played up better now, and the backs were nicely fed by Gent and Stephens, but they could not pierce the defence. Some fast play was afterwards witnessed in which both sides were seen to advantage. Stephens was injured and had to leave the field. Soon afterwards time was called.

RESULT :

Gloucester .....	Nil
Cinderford .....	Nil

## REMARKS.

It was a very hot game, and a draw about represented the run of play. Cinderford had the advantage in the second half, the forwards playing superbly.

Gloucester were undoubtedly highly tried, but the team played below form, the three-quarter line being disappointing. Gent worked hard at half, and frequently rendered his side splendid service. Cinderford played all out, and their performance gave great satisfaction to their supporters.

### GLOUCESTER A v. CINDERFORD A.

#### A DAY OUT FOR THE CITY SECONDS.

This match followed the boys' match at Kingsholm. The ground was in good condition, and an open game was expected. Gloucester had one alteration and Cinderford three from the advertised teams.

The men lined out as follows : –

Gloucester A. – F. Perry, back; H. Hughes, H. Cook, J. Goddard, and F. Smith, three-quarter backs; A. Hall and H. Smith, half-backs; F. Pyart (capt.), R. Craddock, H. Quixley, A. Purton, H. Taylor, D. Hollands, S. Hayward, and T. Guy, forwards.

Cinderford A. – A. James, back; W. Nicholls, J. Cowmeadow, J. White, and W. Meredith, three-quarter backs; A. Hall and S. Woolford, half-backs; H. Jones, F. Butt, R. Dobbs (capt.), G. Walkley, F. Sleaman, J. Bevan, W. Phillips, and J. Cook, forwards.

Cinderford started against wind and sun, and in the first half-minute A. Hall (Gloucester) obtained possession, and putting in a magnificent run right up the field, handed to Goddard, who scored amidst terrific cheering from the augmented crowd. Hayward failed.

From the first scrum after the drop-out, Hall passed out to Smith, who kicked up to James, and floored his man before he could return. Goddard, being well up, gathered splendidly, and ran in under the posts amidst renewed applause. Hayward goaled and Gloucester thus had 8 points in under four minutes – quick work.

Play in the neutral zone followed. Gloucester heeled neatly, and Hall quickly whipped the ball out, but the passing broke down. Next scrum Hall again got going, and passed out to Goddard, who in turn handed to F. Smith, and although the latter was tackled by three opponents, he regained his feet and forced his way over with a fine try. No goal resulted. Gloucester were all over the Foresters, and were quickly attacking again, and after a grand bout of passing all along the line, Hughes grounded the fourth try in quarter of an hour – record scoring. Hayward goaled with a capital kick.

By the aid of kicks Cinderford obtained a footing in the Gloucester 25, and a minor was conceded. Gloucester prevented a return to the drop-out, and centre play followed. The Foresters, naturally anxious to wipe off some of the balance against them, played up very strongly, and again got into the Gloucester quarter. They were beaten off, however, and more play in neutral territory followed. From a loose rush Craddock obtained, and handing out to Goddard, some fine passing ended in Cook putting Hughes over, and he grounded behind the posts. Hayward goaled.

Cinderford played up strongly and forced a minor, but Gloucester quickly transferred operations, and from Hall and Hubert Smith "Tinker" Smith obtained, and with a lively dodgy run beat the opposition "hopeless," and scored behind the posts, Hayward goaling.

Gloucester were at it again immediately, and but for a fine tackle Hubert Smith would have added another. Gloucester were penalised, but no ground was given away, and after another brilliant passing bout by Hall, the two Smiths, Goddard, Cook, and Hughes, the latter got over in the corner. No goal resulted.

HALF-TIME SCORE :

Gloucester ..... 4 goals, 3 tries  
Cinderford ..... Nil

Within two minutes of the re-start, a passing movement, started among the forwards, ended in Hall giving to Cook, and the latter gave Hughes another try, right in the corner, the kick failing.

Perry was called upon, but he kicked finely, and the centre was the venue for some minutes, in which the forwards put in some good work. Eventually Gloucester got going again, and James fumbling badly, the ball went into touch ten yards out. From the line-out Hollands got possession, and dashed over with a capital try, Perry failing.

Centre play followed, and Cinderford tried passing, but made little ground. Eventually, however, Perry mulled from a long kick, and a Cinderford forward being well up dashed over with a try, which was not improved upon.

Cinderford were playing better together now, and kept in the Gloucester 25 for some time, and a long kick ended in the ball going to touch in goal. Play had quietened down a good deal now, until F. Smith put in a pretty run and again centred the game.

Gloucester got the ball out once or twice, but passing went astray at the critical moment. However, a moment later Cook and Hughes did the trick, the latter scoring behind the posts, but Perry failed at the easy kick.

Shortly after, Hubert Smith ran in nicely, but a knock-on was given, and he was called back. Gloucester had the better of matters to the end, but did not score again.

RESULT :

Gloucester A ..... 4 goals, 6 tries (38 points)  
Cinderford A ..... 1 try (3 points)

## REMARKS.

The City Seconds had a veritable day out, and the first half of the game was one of the most delightful and exhilarating displays that anyone might wish to witness. The handling of the backs was superb, and the faultless, rapid hand-to-hand passing quite flabbergasted the Foresters to the tune of four goals and three tries in the first moiety.

Changing over, Cinderford improved a little, but they were hopelessly beaten, although nobody would grudge them their solitary point, which was given them by a bad mistake on the full back's part. However, apart from this, little or no fault could be found with the home team, and they are to be congratulated on a very fine exhibition, to which every man in the XV. contributed his quota.