

1888=1889.



THE captain elected was A. F. Hill, and his vice, C. S. Arthur. Dan E. Jones being re-elected captain of the Second XV. for the fourth season in succession.

The Committee found it necessary to fill very few places, most of last season's players being available, and a new player to the district, in the person of C. V. Rome, got a place at half-back, O. J. Evans being unavailable. Hugh Ingledew played occasionally, also D. W. Evans, who later on went to Oxford. Mr. Alec Duncan still continued to fill the office of umpire.

The first match on the card that requires special notice is the one against Oxford University, it being considered a rather tall order for Cardiff to take on such a redoubtable team as the Oxonians were regarded at that time. The match took place at Oxford. D. W. Evans, who was then in residence at Oxford, met us at the station on our arrival, and gently informed us that he had been cracking up Welsh football and hoped we would make a decent show on the morrow, but that we had no possible chance of winning, the Oxford team containing some wonderful players. Christopherson was the captain, and C. J. M. Fleming, a man of huge stature, was one of the three-quarters. It so happened that the first few of the Cardiff team to step on the field of play were the shortest and lightest, and great astonishment was visibly and audibly expressed by the Oxford partisans, that such a weak-looking lot of players should be pitted up against the Oxford giants. The result of the match was even a greater surprise to them, Cardiff running out easy winners by 3 goals 2 tries to nil. I give you the names of both sets of players :—

CARDIFF.

Full back : H. Hughes.

Three-quarters : C. S. Arthur, Rosser Evans, N. Biggs and F. N. Jones.

Half-backs : W. E. Jarman, C. V. Rome.

Forwards : A. F. Hill, A. F. Bland, Q. D. Kedzlie, S. H. Nicholls, W. E. O. Williams, J. Mahoney, R. T. Duncan and W. T. Morgan.

OXFORD.

Full-back : W. Rashleigh.

Three-quarters : P. Christopherson, C. J. N. Fleming, H. W. Rhodes.

Half-backs : F. Borwick, F. Morgan.

Forwards : D. W. Evans, R. O. B. Lane, R. D. Budworth, E. H. G. North, J. H. G. Wilson, W. T. Grenfell, R. Percival, T. Parker and R. S. Hunter.

It will be noted that Oxford only played three three-quarters.

On December 26th, Cardiff met the Maoris, as the first New Zealand team was called, and a great match was the result. In view of the recent visit of the New Zealanders I have considered it worth while embodying the account of the match in this book. The Maoris were not so well looked after as the recent New Zealand team were, and played too many matches during their tour; but in the opinion of many excellent judges, they were almost, if not quite, as good a team of players as the team of 1905-6. Certainly, this latter team had no better player than Gage, who played a wonderful full-back game against Cardiff, and then there was Keogh, another excellent player, and the Warbricks. They also had a magnificent forward in the person of G. Williams.

Blackheath were met for the first time, the match taking place at Blackheath, on the 9th March, Cardiff going under to the extent of 2 goals 2 tries to nil.

The Blackheath team that day contained several players of outstanding ability, their three-quarter line being P. Christopherson, A. E. Stoddart, F. H. Alderson, R. B. Sweet-Escott; and half-backs, W. M. Scott and P. H. Illingworth. All these men, with the exception of Escott, were internationals, and they had some international forwards as well, and the English internationals of these days were immeasurably superior to the English internationals of the present day.

Notwithstanding the quality of the teams met, an excellent score was recorded by Cardiff, the forwards doing well in the scoring line, W. E. O. Williams securing twelve and S. H. Nicholls eleven.

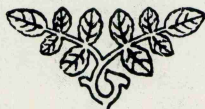
Scotland and Ireland were met by Wales, as usual, but the dispute with England was still unsettled; Wales played the Maoris, at Swansea, and international caps were awarded for this game. C. S. Arthur, N. Biggs, W. H. Stadden, A. F. Hill, S. H. Nicholls, A. F. Bland, taking part in that match. Hugh Hughes, Rosser Evans, S. H. Nicholls, A. F. Hill, D. W. Evans and W. E. O. Williams played against Scotland, and N. Biggs and S. H. Nicholls represented Cardiff against Ireland.

The Second XV. were not quite so successful this Season, losing three matches, drawing four, and winning twelve. Score for was 12 goals 26 tries, and against, 6 goals 7 tries.

The financial position was still satisfactory, gate money amounting to £924 2s. 7d. The only items of expenditure calling for comment was one of £148 1s. 2d., paid for steel fencing for the ground. This fencing did not last long, for the purpose for which it was erected, viz., to keep the street urchins from getting into the grounds, proved a failure.

A more elaborate form of accidental insurance was embarked upon ; £25 4s. being paid to cover players. The space under the grand stand was converted into rooms for the players to hang their sweaters and coats while the match was being played.

Platforms around the ground were also erected, the cost being £21 0s. 8d., and the balance to the good at the Bristol and West of England Bank was certified to be £165 10s. 7d.



List of Officers.

—o—
Season 1888=1889.
—o—

Committee :

A. DUNCAN, A. J. HYBART,
F. E. HANCOCK, W. D. PHILLIPS,
W. M. DOUGLAS, H. J. SIMPSON,
G. A. YOUNG.

Captain : A. F. HILL.

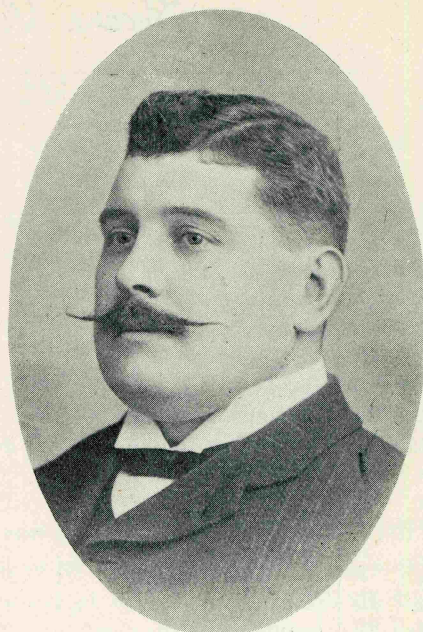
Vice-Captain : C. S. ARTHUR.

Captain Second XV. :

D. E. JONES.

Hon. Treasurer : J. P. JONES.

Hon. Secretary : W. H. TREATT.



A. F. HILL.

Names and Positions of those who played during the Season.



Full-backs : H. Hughes, Claude Evans, W. Cosslett, A. F. Bland.

Three-quarter-backs : N. Biggs, W. H. Keepings, G. Rosser Evans, C. S. Arthur,
Fred N. Jones, D. E. Jones, Owen Lewis, A. M. Hill, W. Harris, J. J. E. Biggs.

Half-backs : W. E. Jarman, H. M. Ingledew, C. V. Rome, J. E. Merrett, G. Rosser
Evans.

Forwards : S. H. Nicholls, Q. D. Kedzlie, W. T. Morgan, J. V. Arman, A. J. Hybart,
D. W. Evans, A. F. Bland, W. E. O. Williams, A. F. Hill, T. M. Glubb,
R. Thomas, J. Mahoney, R. T. Duncan, W. Rosser, S. Cravos,
D. Williams, Gomer Thomas, E. P. Biggs.

1888-1889.



A. DUNCAN. W. T. MORGAN. W. ROPNER. C. S. ARTHUR. FRED N. JONES. R. T. DUNCAN. H. HUGHES. W. E. O. WILLIAMS
(umpire.)
W. E. JARMAN. NORMAN BIGGS. S. H. NICHOLLS. A. F. HILL (*capt.*) A. F. BLAND. A. M. HILL.
G. ROSSER EVANS. Q. D. KEDZLIE. J. MAHONEY.

Record, Season 1888-1889.

DATE	OPPONENTS	RESULT	WHERE PLAYED	FOR		AGAINST	
				Goals	Tries	Goals	Tries
1888.							
Sept. 29	Cardiff Harlequins	won	A	1	1	—	—
Oct. 6	Bristol	won	H	5	9	—	—
„ 13	Newport	lost	A	—	2	2	—
„ 20	Burton	won	A	3	1	1	—
„ 27	Swansea	lost	H	—	—	2	2
Nov. 3	Halifax	won	H	2	2	†1	1
„ 10	Clifton	won	H	6	3	—	—
„ 14	United Hospitals	won	H	3	2	—	—
„ 17	Gloucester	drawn	A	—	—	—	—
„ 24	Newport	won	H	—	2	—	—
Dec. 1	Llanelly	lost	A	—	—	—	2
„ 5	Oxford	won	A	†3	2	—	—
„ 8	Gloucester	drawn	H	—	1	—	1
„ 15	Neath	won	H	5	2	—	—
„ 22	London Welsh	won	H	1	—	—	—
„ 26	Moseley	won	H	2	1	—	—
„ 29	Maoris	won	H	1	1	—	1
„ 31	Oldham	won	H	5	1	—	—
1889.							
Jan. 1	York	won	H	2	4	1	—
„ 12	Swansea	drawn	A	—	—	—	—
„ 19	Penarth	won	H	2	3	—	—
„ 26	Newport	won	A	2	2	—	1
Feb. 9	Clifton	won	A	*2	6	—	—
„ 16	Burton	won	H	3	—	—	—
„ 23	Gloucester	drawn	A	—	—	—	—
Mar. 2	Bridgwater	won	H	2	7	—	—
„ 9	Blackheath	lost	A	—	—	2	2
„ 16	Gloucester	lost	H	1	2	2	1
„ 23	Neath	won	A	2	2	—	2
„ 30	Moseley	won	A	§1	—	—	1
April 6	Newport	won	H	1	1	1	—
				55	57	12	14

* One Penalty. † One Dropped. § Mark Goal.

Matches played, 31; Won, 22; Drawn, 4; Lost, 5.

Try getters : C. S. Arthur, 18; N. Biggs, 18; W. E. O. Williams, 12; S. H. Nicholls, 11; Rosser Evans, 10; W. Jarman, 8; A. F. Hill, 7; A. M. Hill, 7; Q. D. Kedzlie, 5; D. W. Evans, 2; F. N. Jones, 2; W. T. Morgan, 2; W. H. Keepings, 1; H. M. Ingledew, 1; A. F. Bland, 1; J. Mahoney, 1; E. P. Biggs, 1; W. Harris, 1; J. E. Merrett, 1.

Dropped Goals : N. Biggs, 1. *Penalty Goals* : H. Hughes, 2.

Cardiff v. The Maoris,

DECEMBER 29th, 1888.



The concluding match of the Maori tour in South Wales, played at the Cardiff Arms Park, this afternoon, was favoured by gloriously fine weather, a circumstance which, coupled with the importance of the fixture, contributed to bring together one of the largest attendances ever seen on the ground. Seeing that the local football crowd have had quite a surfeit of their favourite pastime, during the last few days, it would have been too much to hope that the "gate" would beat the record in point of numbers, but certain it is that if it fell short of achieving this feat, it came very nigh accomplishing it. As early as one o'clock hundreds began to pour in one continuous stream through the gates, and fully three-quarters of an hour before the advertised time for the commencement of hostilities, the stand and enclosure were packed, and the boundary ropes lined three or four deep, with more or less enthusiastic votaries of the sport. Notwithstanding the recent successes gained by the Colonials over Swansea and Newport, backers of the home team strongly favoured their own chance, at least they were prepared to lay or take even money as often as they could. The Cardiff team themselves were equally confident, while the Maoris, as far as could be gathered in conversation with them, seemed to regard the result as certain to be in their own favour. Following the altered tactics which they embarked upon after their defeat by Llanelly and Wales, the Maoris played four three-quarters, the disposition of their men in the field thus being the same as that of Cardiff, who may be regarded as the originators of the four three-quarter game, or at all events, the team who first brought out most strongly its utility when properly worked. At 2.40 the rival teams were noticed making their way through the gates, and the crowd who had so long and so patiently awaited their advent, signified their satisfaction at the sight afforded them by a hearty outburst of applause. Some delay occurred while sweaters and wraps were being deposited in the temporary dressing-room beneath the grand stand, but this was not long-lived. The Cardiffians were the first to step into the space between the ropes, closely followed by the Maoris. Both sides were greeted with loud cheers, the Maoris, it is pleasant to be able to record, receiving by far the

heartier reception. Little time was thereafter cut to waste, and the teams were soon drawn in battle array as follows :—

MAORIS.

Back : D. Gage.

Three-quarter-backs : J. Warbrick (Capt.), F. Warbrick, W. Wynyard,
E. M'Causland.

Half-backs : P. Keogh, W. Elliott.

Forwards : T. Ellison, G. Wynyard, H. Lee, A. Webster, G. Williams,
A. Warbrick, ("cook"), W. Karauria, D. Stewart.

CARDIFF.

Back : H. Hughes.

Three-quarter-backs : A. M. Hill, C. S. Arthur, F. N. Jones, Norman Biggs.

Half-backs : Rosser Evans, W. E. Jarman.

Forwards : A. F. Hill (Capt.), A. F. Bland, Q. D. Kedzlie, D. W. Evans,
R. T. Duncan, W. T. Morgan, J. Mahoney, S. Nicholls.

Umpires : Mr. Alex. Duncan (Cardiff), U. Taiaroa (Maoris).

Referee : E. S. Richards, (Swansea).

A glance at the names will show that both teams fully represented the best men either side could put in the field. Below we give details of the play.

Ellison started the ball for the Maoris, and D. W. Evans returned into touch at the centre. Scrimmaging followed the line out, in which the Cardiff men, by capital dribbling, took the ball to within three yards of the Maori 25, where one of the visitors put it into touch. Following the line out, the ball was passed to Charley Arthur, who, running across the ground, passed to Biggs, the latter sprinting grandly in, and scoring near the end of the line, despite a gallant attempt from Gage to prevent him. This point, gained in the first minute, evoked a tremendous outburst of cheers. Hughes failed at the place. Following the drop-out, play was at first in the Maoris' 25, where a flying kick removed it to Cardiff territory. After some scrimmaging between the Cardiff 25 and half-way, the ball was passed to Keogh, who put in a long run, but without gaining ground. A. F. Hill claimed a free kick, the effect of which was to remove the play to the Maoris' side of the half flag, and the ball was quickly taken into their 25. Lee, however, headed a dribble, by means of which the ball was once more taken to the centre. Cardiff lost a little ground by some bad passing, but a useful kick from Fred Jones recovered for them, and operations were resumed at the centre. Rosser Evans ran and put in a long kick, and then, after a line out, the ball was got into scrimmage close to the Maori 25. D. W. Evans headed a rush near the line, but the Maoris quickly relieved, and got the ball into touch just behind their 25. After the line-out Charley Arthur dribbled close up, and Rosser Evans intercepted a return rush. A scrimmage was brought about six yards from the Maoris' line. This was quickly broken up, and

other scrums followed, Hill at length getting to within two yards of the line. Here he claimed for a try, but this was disallowed, and the ball put in scrimmage just outside the line. The Maoris were closely penned, a hot attack being maintained upon their goal-line for a space of several minutes, and the ball being at length driven across, the Maoris had to turn it into touch in-goal to save. Following the drop-out, a line-out occurred near the centre. Mahoney dribbled into the Maori 25, and Fred Jones took it close up. Scrambling play ensued in the Maori 25, Keogh picked up, and ran out smartly, but A. M. Hill sent the ball back to near the visitor's line. The Maoris, however, quickly relieved, and play for a short time was in the centre. Morgan and Nicholls brought off a fine rush to the Maori line, but Gage grandly relieved, and play was once more even. Biggs was applauded for some close tackling. Cardiff, after a series of scrimmages, started another rush, and Rosser Evans tackled one of the visitors ere he could return. The Maoris, however, went to work with a will, and for the first time since the start the Cardiff 25 became the scene of hostilities. The siege was not destined to be prolonged, the ball being quickly taken to the centre, where Biggs put in a clever punt into touch. Scrimmaging followed the throw-out in the vicinity of the Maori's 25. Charley Arthur, taking a pass, dodged for an opening, and then threw to A. M. Hill, who, unluckily, failed to secure the ball. Cardiff, notwithstanding, pressed home the attack, and some hot contested scrums ensued in the Maori 25. Nicholls breaking splendidly through the Maoris, dribbled over the line, and, just managing to fall on the ball, Cardiff were awarded the second try. Hughes took the place, the angle being a fairly easy one, and loud cheers announced that his attempt to convert it had succeeded. Ellison dribbled off, and there being no return the first scrimmage was near the Cardiff 25. Keogh came through the scrimmage and took the ball close well in. A lot of desultory scrimmages ensued, and eventually the Maoris worked the ball over, and were awarded a try. M'Causland took the kick and failed most disastrously in his effort. This brought the game to half-time, the score then reading :—

Cardiff.....	1 goal, 1 try, 1 minor.
Maoris.....	1 try.

On resuming after the interval Hill started the ball for Cardiff and F. Warbrick replied. Play soon settled down in the centre. Slow and uninteresting scrimmages were at first the order of the day. Fred Jones and Biggs now put in some useful work, by stopping rushes, the former in particular shining. Nevertheless, the Maoris pressed into the Cardiff 25. Play became very slow, but Biggs eventually relieved by a fine screw kick into touch beyond the half-way flag. Slow scrimmaging followed the throw-out, and nothing noteworthy occurred. Nicholls headed another brilliant rush, clean into the Maoris' 25. The Maoris intercepted some passing attempted by the Cardiff backs, but A. M. Hill managed to win back much of the lost ground by a clever punt. Rosser Evans passed to Biggs, who sprinted into the Maori 25, but unfortunately lost his footing when near the line. The same player twice in

succession stopped ugly return rushes. The Maoris at length got away with a rush to the Cardiff 25, where Hughes was collared before he could put in his kick. Biggs, however, recovered the ground by kicking into touch at the centre. After the line-out the Cardiff forwards swept up well inside the Maori 25, and the ball was taken very close to the line. The visitors, playing up well in the pack, brought the ball out a bit. Then Biggs, taking a pass, ran up to the line where he lost the ball, the Maoris, however, being compelled to touch down in defence. Following the drop-out, play took place in the Maori territory. Gage put in a fine kick, but Cardiff still continued to attack. F. Warbrick put in a short run, which was splendidly followed up, and the ball was removed to the Cardiff end. Biggs and Arthur between them came to the rescue, and quickly transferred play to the centre. After a line-out at the half-flag, W. Wynyard got possession and punted into touch at the Cardiff 25. From a scrum here the ball was heeled out on the Maori side, and the visitors resorting to passing commanded a clear opening, when they were intercepted splendidly by A. M. Hill. A. F. Hill ran out to the centre, but Karauria dribbled beautifully down to the Cardiff end, and the visitors notched a minor. After the drop-out, play quickly settled down in the centre. M'Causland put in a kick, removing operations to the Cardiff 25. Cardiff were now having more than a bit the worst of it, and the ball frequently falling in a pool on one side of their 25, made it extremely difficult to handle. D. W. Evans kicked well out, but Gage returned. Then Charley Arthur, Fred Jones, and Biggs between them, dribbled prettily to touch in the Maori 25, amidst loud cheers. After the line-out, the Maoris rushed well down, but after A. M. Hill had partly spoilt their onslaught, Rosser Evans got a mark near the Cardiff 25. His kick was returned, and the Maoris resorted to passing, but met by good tackling, failed to score. Their forwards, however, worked the ball to the Cardiff 25, where Biggs and Hill did some useful saving work. D. W. Evans and Fred Jones dribbling grandly, raised the siege, and Charlie Arthur, by a pretty dribble, took the ball to the centre. The Cardiff forwards then swept on to the Maoris' 25. One of the visitors relieved with a kick, and then their pack coming on with a rush, Hughes was only just in time with a kick into touch beyond the 25 flag. Forcing the fight, the Maoris took the ball inside the flag, where tight scrimmages followed. Rosser Evans and Charlie Arthur relieved, and took the ball right past the centre flag, when time was called, leaving the score :—

Cardiff.....	1 goal, 1 try, 2 minors.
Maoris.....	1 try, 1 minor.

Note.—Cardiff's second try was a peculiar one. S. H. Nicholls and W. T. Morgan were together in the dribble, and they touched down the ball simultaneously, so that the honour of scoring is divided.