

England 14 : Ireland 3

5 minutes Regan Try 3

20 .. Butterfield Try 3

Near half-time Penalty 3

6

3

Penalty

3

Try

Wilson 3)
King converts 2)

5

14

14

3

England triumph over gallant opponents

From D. R. GENT—Twickenham

England 14 pts. Ireland 3

(N)CE more the meeting of England and Ireland has produced a magnificent game—clean, vigorous and skilful, with the pace kept up right till the last minute. England won by a goal, a penalty goal and two tries to a penalty goal, and perhaps made the victory probable if not certain by scoring two most spectacular tries before the game was 20 minutes old.

There was a very large crowd and the cheering, for one side or the other—and there were plenty of Irish supporters present—began with the kick-off and practically never stopped until the end. The Irish side looked a little strange without their brilliant captain and outside-half, J. W. Kyle, who at the last minute had to withdraw with a pulled thigh muscle after playing in thirty-two international matches without a break.



The superiority of the English side lay, as one expected, with the backs. They had reasonable chances and made glorious use of them against as persistent and plucky a defence as one could wish to see. The three-quarter line must be the biggest set of men to fill that position for England for very many years. J. E. Butterfield is the normal size for a centre, but he is quite dwarfed against J. E. Woodward and W. P. Davies, the wing, and his co-centre J. P. Quinn.

This physique stood them in good stead in the opening phases when the sturdy Quinn just forced his way through and past opponents to give his outside men their chances. And what better sight is there than seeing these big men under way? The sight of any of them making for the line in this game will remain in the minds of the spectators for a long time. And the half-backs, M. Regan and G. Rimmer, made thrilling dashes, too.

Clever kicking

Behind was Ian King, always worried by the clever placing of the punt ahead from the Irishmen, but always sticking to a thankless job.

Praise is due to the pack and its leader, R. V. Stirling, as well. They pegged away against a livelier and quicker set of forwards and never gave in, finishing the game with a 10 minute attack on the Irish line.

D. S. Wilson was outstanding. Here was a forward playing constructive football in the open with the pace and skill of a centre three-quarter and he had a special cheer all to himself when he finished off the match with a splendid try.

Stirling is a capital leader, orthodox, resourceful and quiet in his control, and the English forwards owe a lot to his leadership. They will do better still when they have improved their play in the line-out.

Well done, Ireland! It was a magnificent fight they put up, not only without Kyle, but also without one of their forwards, J. Murphy-O'Connor, who injured a back muscle ten minutes after half-time and had to leave the field for the rest of the match.

Kyle's deputy

W. J. Hewitt made a capital substitute for Kyle, after being reserve to him for most of Kyle's 32 games. Hewitt is the fourth member of a famous Belfast Rugby family to have been capped for Ireland, and his display was one worthy of the name. He was cool and resourceful. The other backs were plucky and defended admirably, with occasions when they tested the English defence. But they had not quite the finish to end with a score. J. T. Gaston made a plucky attempt to deal with Woodward, his opposite number, and it was the All Blacks match over again, with Gaston doing what Jarden did that day.

But the glory of the Irish side was the forwards whom J. S. McCarthy, captain of the side, led wonderfully well, and it was a superb effort of his at the end of the match when he cleared the Englishmen from his own line after tremendous pressure, by a dribble and with a kick that must have gained sixty yards. Then there was

Championship Table

| | P. | W. | D. | L. | Points For | Points Agst | Pts |
|----------|----|----|----|----|------------|-------------|-----|
| England | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 9 | 4 |
| France | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 4 |
| Ireland | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 22 | 0 |
| Scotland | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Wales | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

the dashing P. J. Lawlor always in the thick of it.

At the start England had the wind against them and, after the backs had muffed a few kicks and got confused, the Irish backs, with Henderson leading, put in a short and sharp attack. But in five minutes the English backs showed their great skill. It happened on the left side of the field. Quinn picked up in the loose, not far from the half-way line.

He cleared some of his opponents by his dash and then passed to Davies on the left-wing. Across came the Irish defence, but Davies was fast enough to beat most of them, only to face two Irishmen 20 yards from the line. A lovely inside pass to Regan was well taken, and it was now Regan's turn. He was making to the open field on his right, when he side-stepped beautifully, cut inside on his left and was over in the corner in a flash. Here was back play at its very best and it was the same sort of try that we had a quarter of an hour later on the opposite side of the field.

Rimmer away

Here Rimmer started the movement, with a pass to Quinn, who delayed his pass to Woodward till the wing could get under way. Then away he went and the task of disposing of his opponents and keeping clear of the touch line began.

He finished up a dozen yards or so from the line, gave an inside pass to Butterfield and the centre forced himself over for a try. The kick was missed by King, as the first one had been.

On went this ever-moving game, up and down the field, each side in command in turn and frequently looking like scoring. But all that came before half-time was a beautiful penalty goal for Ireland, kicked by Murphy-O'Connor from a difficult angle and a very long way out.

The second half opened with a strong Irish attack and the English defence was under pressure for a long period. Hewitt made a strong run and so did Henderson. But the Irishmen now developed a tendency to get off side and this lost them good positions time and time again. At last Regan first, and then Wilson got England out of tight holes. Now it was that Murphy-O'Connor went off, and the Irish forwards played with more fire still but they were held, and it was England who finished in command.

Forward pass

Once Regan was sent over and touched down after clever play with his partner Rimmer. But there was a forward pass and it was all to do again. Then came a neat but easy penalty goal for England kicked by King.

The Irishmen were now tiring and the game went back to their line, where delightful combination between Wilson and Butterfield led to a try by Wilson which King converted, and England had won well to make the Calcutta Cup match on March 20 one for the Triple Crown as well as the famous cup.

ENGLAND: I. King (Harrogate); J. E. Woodward (Wasps); J. P. Quinn (New Brighton); J. Butterfield (Northampton); W. P. C. Davies (Harlequins); M. Regan (Liverpool); G. Rimmer (Waterloo); R. V. Stirling (capt.) (R.A.F. and Wasps); E. Evans (Sale); D. L. Sanders (Harlequins); P. D. Young (Dublin W.); P. G. Yarranton (R.A.F. and Wasps); D. S. Wilson (Met. Police); J. Metc. Kendall-Carpenter (Bath); A. R. Higgins (Liverpool).

IRELAND: R. J. Gregg (Queen's Univ.); M. Mortell (Bective R.); N. J. Henderson (N.I.F.C.); A. C. Pedlow (Queen's Univ.); J. T. Gaston (Trinity); W. J. Hewitt (Instonians); J. A. O'Meara (Dolphin); F. E. Anderson (Queen's Univ.); R. Bee (Trinity); G. Wood (Garryowen); R. H. Thompson (Instonians); P. Lawlor (Clontarf); G. Reidy (Lansdowne); J. Murphy-O'Connor (Bective R.); J. S. McCarthy (capt.) (Dolphin).

Referee: M. A. Dickie (Scotland).