

Date: 17 November 1900
 Opposition: The Wednesday
 Competition: League

Mercury	Sheff. Independent	

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Liverpool Mercury

LIVERPOOL v SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY.

The Liverpool team made the journey to Sheffield to oppose the Wednesday eleven, before some 12,000 spectators. Satterthwaite and Cox were again in the Liverpool team, and six of the players lined out as under—Liverpool: Perkins, goal; Robertson and Dunlop, backs; Wilson, Raabcock, and Goldie, half backs; Robertson Walker, Raybould, Satterthwaite, and Cox, forwards. Sheffield Wednesday: Massey, goal; Layton and Langley, backs; Ferner, Crawshaw, and Ruddleson, half-backs; McWhinnie, Davis, Wilson, Wright, and Malloch, forwards. Liverpool commenced operations against a cross breeze, and were at once prominent in the Wednesday half. The home halves were kept busily employed, but eventually Raybould was afforded a good opening, of which he took full advantage. This success was obtained in the first five minutes of the game, following which the Wednesday forwards put plenty of dash into their play, and kept the Liverpool defenders extended to their best form. They repeatedly pressed, and were eventually rewarded with a capital goal by Crawshaw, and play had scarcely settled down again when Wilson placed the home side ahead. The visiting forwards next pressed hotly, and Massey had plenty of work on hand, but his defence was all that could be desired. The pace was maintained splendidly, and the ball was kept on the move from end to end in rapid succession. Eventually Wilson got through and put on a third goal, and before the interval Raabcock reduced the lead. Half-time—Wednesday, 3 goals; Liverpool, 2. The home side had the better of the play after resuming, and with a little star lines in front of goal might easily have forged further ahead. Strenuous efforts were made by the visitors, but they could make but little impression on the home defenders, and after a prolonged period of keen play against which the efforts of the backs were always successful, the pace toned down. Further scoring was not forthcoming, and the result was—

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THE SHEFFIELD AND ROTHERHAM INDEPENDENT.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY v. LIVERPOOL

Wednesday Win a Good Game,

The meeting of Sheffield Wednesday and Liverpool upon the ground of the former at Owlerton, on Saturday, produced a splendidly contested game, speedy, exciting, and prolific of interesting incidents, the result being that after a very stern struggle the Sheffielders just succeeded in winning by 3 goals to 2—a narrow but deserved victory. Showery and unsettled weather in the early part of the day detracted doubtless from the attendance. Nevertheless some 12,000 enthusiasts put in an appearance to watch Wednesday defeat the team who, the previous week, had beaten Aston Villa by 5 goals to 1. The constitution of the Liverpool front rank differed somewhat from its arrangement on that notable occasion, but it was fully as strong, if not stronger, for Cox, who had then been away playing for the English League against the Irish League at Belfast, re-appeared on the extreme left. McGuigan, however, was an absentee, so that Walker went over from inside left to inside right, leaving Satterthwaite the latter position. Wednesday also had a strong and representative team, Layton, who the previous week had been playing in the League International, re-appearing at right full back, and the arrangement of the right wing forwards being altered by Davis returning to the inside place and a first trial at home being given to Macwhinnie on the outside right. A cross but not very powerful wind prevailed, and veered during the progress of the game. It rendered no particular assistance to either side. Despite the rain that had fallen during the week, the ground was in capital condition, and everything favoured a high-class exhibition of exciting football such as was actually seen. Langley winning the toss, Wednesday defended the goal at the Leppings lane end of the ground. On kicking off, Liverpool commenced by smart combination, but Wednesday seemed slow and their defence being loose to begin with they were caught napping, the visitors within five minutes of the start getting a goal, Raybould receiving the ball from a beautiful centre by Cox and giving Massey no chance at a very clever shot. However, this early success of the visitors only served to rouse the "Blades" to more ener-

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getic action. Quickly they carried the war into the enemy's camp, Macwhinnie gaining the approbation of the on-lookers by his work on the right flank, and indeed once from a fine centre by him Wilson nearly equalised, putting the ball just over the bar. The game had been in progress only a quarter of an hour when the Sheffields succeeded in their efforts to draw level. A pretty bit of play by Ruddlesdin enabled Malloch to swing the ball across and an attack wherein Crawshaw displayed splendid pertinacity ended in his giving Perkins little chance at a fast low shot. Of course this was received with loud cheering, but the applause was wildly enthusiastic when, two minutes later, getting on to the ball from a fine centre by Macwhinnie, Wilson put Wednesday ahead. Then the struggle grew fiercer than ever. Crawshaw and Raisbeck, the two opposing centre halves, both did superb work for their respective sides. The Liverpool combination often threatened to overwhelm the defence, and Cox's centres from the left were very dangerous, the home goal once having a marvellous escape. But, on the other hand, Wednesday's sprightly dashes, wherein Wright and Wilson shone out well, were equally dangerous, and, as it happened, more effective, for twelve minutes before half-time the Sheffields managed to further increase their lead. Wilson beat his opposing back, getting the ball from a kick by Langley, and away he sprinted towards the goal. Perkins saved his shot, but let the ball slip from his hands, looked round for it, only to have the Wednesday centre on him with a rush and see the ball crashed past him into the net. Thus, amidst tremendous applause, the Sheffields led by 3 to 1. But Liverpool were undismayed, and soon reduced this lead by a goal, for a run and centre by Cox brought about a pertinacious attack by the visitors which upset the Wednesday defence and saw Massey without a ghost of a chance at a long shot from Raisbeck. Then Wednesday again dashed ahead, Davis working for all he was worth, and having hard lines with a shot which hit the upright. At half-time Wednesday led by 3 to 2. Very soon after change of ends Wilson got in a good shot at Perkins, which was saved. Later Massey saved admirably at the other end a stinger from Walker. Then, from a beautiful centre by Macwhinnie, Wilson, almost under the bar, seemed certain to go through, but failed in unaccountable fashion, and from a corner kick the ball was got away. However, the Wednesday left swooped down again, Malloch playing well, and with Perkins out of his goal, Wilson, with a terrific shot, missed by inches. After this the Liverpoolians brought strong pressure to bear, and once Massey had to rush out to thwart

Robertson, thereby giving a corner, but this and a second corner also found the Wednesday defence strong. The contest still raged at a furious pace, but the football was scarcely so brilliant as in the first half. Crawshaw, early in the second half, had got a blow in the stomach which caused him much pain, but he struggled on gamely, and did not leave the field. Once the game was stopped for a minute or two whilst Wright recovered from a severe shaking, and though he remained on the field he was hurt so much that he went on the outside, changing places with Malloch, and being of little further use. Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that Liverpool were now having the better of the play. Robertson finished several smart runs on the visitors' right wing by long shots wide of the mark. Once when Davis got away and looked like heading through from a high forward pass, Robertson, the Liverpool full-back, near goal took the ball almost off Davis's head with his hand, but the incident escaped official notice. Towards the end of the game the pace, which had been so hot, slackened somewhat. Liverpool tried hard to equalise, but Wednesday gallantly stuck to the lead. Close on time the Sheffield right spurted away and forced a corner, but before it could be taken the whistle sounded for time, a hotly-contested game ending:—

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY... 3 goals.
 LIVERPOOL 2 goals.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY.—Massey, goal; Layton and Langley, backs; Ferrier, Crawshaw, and Ruddlesdin, half-backs; Macwhinnie, Davis, Wilson, Wright, and Malloch, forwards.

LIVERPOOL.—Perkins, goal; Robertson and Dunlop, backs; Wilson, Raisbeck, and Goldie, half-backs; Robertson, Walker, Raybould, Satterthwaite, and Cox, forwards.

Referee: Mr. T. Helme (Farnworth).