Leicestershire Challenge Shield 1899-00

Winner: Loughborough Forest Rovers
Runner-Up: Packington
No. of entries: 29

Round 1

Division I

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
1	30.9.1899	Whitwick Holy Cross	4	1	Anwell Rising Star	

Measham Wanderers, Packington and Whitwick White Cross, byes

Division II

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
2	30.9.1899	Castle Donington St Luke's	3	2	Barrow Rovers	St Luke's were censured for their want of courtesy to the referee and the visiting team.
3	30.9.1899	Loughborough Adult School Perry (2) Lydall Collins	4	1	Kegworth AN Other	Game commenced at 4 pm.

Castle Donington and Loughborough Forest Rovers, byes.

Division III

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
4	30.9.1899	Stoney Stanton	W		Burbage United	

Division IV

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
5	30.9.1899	Melton Town Reserves Peters AN Other	2 (2)	1 (1)	Melton Swifts Lyles	Town Ground, Melton.
6	30.9.1899	Melton Victoria	0 (0)	1 (0)	Melton Rovers Lowe	Melton Rovers had disbanded; Victoria entered the next round without a contest.

Division V and VI

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
7	30.9.1899	Belmont Albion	4	2	Market Harborough	Sergeant Glover (Wigston) officiated.
8	30.9.1899	Groby Albion AN Others G Brooks G Bennett Wood	6	1	Blaby Adult School	Groby scored 2 goals in the first 10 mins. Groby led 5-1 at half-time
9	30.9.1899	King Richard's-road Wesleyans	W		Leicester Great Meeting	
10	30.9.1899	Ratby Swifts	4	2	Market Harborough Congregational	At Ratby.
11	30.9.1899	Wigston United	D	D	St Andrew's	

South Wigston Albion and Leicester St Matthew's byes.

Round 1 Replays

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
12	7.10.1899	St Andrew's	8	2	Wigston United	

Round 2

Leicestershire Football Association made an error in drawing the first round, in which a sufficient number of byes were not arranged. As a consequence, there were more clubs in the second round. In order for the cup competition to work out correctly, and in order to obviate byes, it was decided to play two matches in Divisions V and VI, with the remaining clubs in other divisions passing directly into the third round.

Divisions V and VI

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
13	28,10.1899	King Richard's-road Wesleyan	D	D	St Andrew's	
14	28.10.1899	St Matthew's AN Others Simpson	4	0	Ratby Swifts	Hincks' Farm ground. Taylor [St Matthew's] missed a penalty

Belmont Albion, Groby Albion and South Wigston Albion, byes.

Round 2 Replay

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
15	2.12.1899	St Andrew's	5	4	King Richard's-road Wesleyan	

Round 3

Division I

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
16	6.1.1900	Whitwick Holy Cross	1	2	Measham Wanderers	
17	6.1.1900	Whitwick White Cross		W	Packington	

Division II

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
18	6.1.1900	Castle Donington St Lukes	3 (0)	0 (0)	Loughborough Adult School	
19		Castle Donington Reserves		W	Loughborough Forest Rovers	The Dons were unable to field a team of eligible players – tie awarded to Loughborough.

Division III

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
20	6.1.1900	Melton Town 2nd Lowe	1	0	Melton Victoria	All England Ground, Melton. Strong wind blew across the ground. A protest by Victoria against Town 2nd for playing Houghton and Bentley, of Ashfordby, without obtaining permission was upheld and the match was awarded to Melton Victoria.

Division III, V and VI

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
21	9.1.1900	Belmont Albion	2	4	St Andrew's	Filbert-street ground, Leicester.
22	6.1.1900	South Wigston Albion	2	1	St Matthew's	
23	6.1.1900	Stoney Stanton	2	0	Groby Albion	Groby arrived late and short time was played. The tie was ordered t be replayed.

Round 3 replay

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
24	3.2.1900	Stoney Stanton		W	Groby Albion	

Round 4

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
25	27.1.1900	Castle Donington St Lukes	4	1	Loughborough Forest Rovers	Ground in poor condition, water lying on pools. Referee stopped the game, and it was agreed to restart when the weather improved. It did not and the players proceeded to leave the ground. Conditions suddenly changed and the overs expressed a desire to resume play, but the Dons were not keen, and the matter ended. The Association ordered to game to be replayed.
26	27.1.1900	Melton Victoria Goodacre AN Others	1	5	South Wigston Albion AN Other	Leicester-street Ground. Small number of onlookers.
27		Packington	W		Measham Wanderers	
28		St Andrew's		W	Groby Albion	

Round 4 Replay

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
29	17.2.1900	Castle Donington St Lukes Lees	1	0	Loughborough Forest Rovers	Loughborough protested against Castle Donington St Luke's on the ground that certain players did not reside in Castle Donington. The protest was not upheld, it however came to the knowledge of the Leicestershire Association Executive during the inquiry that Castle Donington St Luke's had played unregistered players and were removed from the competition and the match was awarded to Forest Rovers.

Semi-Finals

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
30	17.3.1900	Loughborough Forest Rovers	2	1	South Wigston Albion	Athletic Grounds, Loughborough. These teams met in the semi-finals of the Cup last year, which the Rovers won 1-0 after extra time in the replay
31	17.3.1900	Packington	4 (2)	2 (1)	Groby Albion	Field Head Ground, Markfield Large gate

Final

	Date	Home			Away	Match Details
32	7.4.1900	Loughborough Forest Rovers Baker Stevens (2)	4	0	Packington	Castle Ground, Mountsorrel Game kicked off at 4.10 pm owing to the late arrival of Packington. In presenting the Shield, Mr. Marson said that considering the importance of the match he had not officiated in a more gentlemanly game during the whole of his 15 years' experience.

Match Reports

A selection of published match reports.

LEICESTERSHIRE SHIELD COMPETITION
#1-11 FIRST ROUND
This was decided last Saturday, the results to hand being as follows:
Division I
Whitwick White Cross, four goals; Anwell R S, one goal.
Packington, Measham and Whitwick White Cross, byes.
Division II
Castle Donington St Luke's, three goals; Barrow, two goals.
Loughborough Adult School, four goals; Kegworth, one goal.
Loughborough Forest Rovers and Castle Donington, byes.
Division IV
Melton Town 2nd, two goals; Melton Swifts, one goal.
Melton Victoria should have met Melton Rovers, but the latter having disbanded, the Victoria enter the second round without a contest.
Division V and VI
Ratby Swifts, four goals; Harborough Congregational, two goals.
Groby Albion, six goals; Blaby Adult School, one goal.
South Wigston Albion and Leicester St Matthew's, byes.
Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 5 October 1899

#1 WHITWICK HOLY CROSS v ANNWELL
WHITWICK, four goals;
ANNWELL, one goal.
Leicester Daily Post – 2 October 1899

#3 LOUGHBORUGH ADULT SCHOOL v KEGWORTH ROVERS
This match was played at Loughborough. The School won the toss, and Kegworth kicked off at four o'clock. The game was even during the first half, each side putting in some good shots. The only goal scored during this portion was by the School, Perry scoring from a good centre by E Pepper. On changing ends the Schol quickly got a second point, Lydall ding the needful. This put the visitors on their mettle, and they pressed the home defence, getting several corners, scoring their only goal from one of them. The School then began to make it warm for the visitors. Perry put on a third goal, which was quickly followed by one from W Collins, who put in some good work at the outside right. There was no more scoring, and the school won their first round by four goals to one.
School players: - J Carxxx, T Taylor, W Foulk, W Stanford, E Pepper, A Goodwin, H Lydall, J Bowler, E Perry and W Collins.
Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 5 October 1899

#3 LOUGHBOROUGH ADULT SCHOOL v KEGWORTH
At Loughborough. Result:
ADULT SCHOOL, four goals;
KEGWORTH, one goal.
Leicester Daily Post – 2 October 1899

#5 MELTON 2nd v MELTON SWIFTS
The above teams met on the Town Ground, Melton, on Saturday, in the first round of the Leicestershire Shield. The Town won the toss and played down hill with the wind. The Town pressed, and forced a corner, from which Lyles headed over. The Swifts now played up splendidly, and Peter, with a grand shot, scored a good goal. Give-and-take play followed, both goalkeepers saving well. Wesson, for the Town, scored an off-side goa, but directly afterwards Lyles equalised. The Town now played for all they were worth, but could not beat Bexon, and half-time arrived with the score:
MELTON TOWN 2ND , one goal;
MELTON SWIFTS, one goal.

On resuming the Swifts took up the running, and forced a corner, but nothing came of it. The Town now tried hard to gain the lead, and Lawden made some good runs, from one of which he scored a splendid goal with an oblique shot. Even play followed, but neither side scored again and the game ended:

MELTON TOWN 2ND, two goals;
MELTON SWIFTS, one goal.

Leicester Daily Post -2 October 1899

#6 MELTON ROVERS v MELTON VICS

This match, in the Leicestershire Sheild competition should have been played on Saturday, but the Rovers' club having been disbanded, Melton Victoria enter the next round of the competition without a contest.
Leicester Daily Post -2 October 1899

#8 GROBY ROVERS v BLABY ADULT SCHOOL

At Groby. The home captain won the toss, and decided to kick down hill, aided by the breeze. Ernest Bennett, the inside left, made a pretty run down the field, and drew first blood for the home team within a couple of minutes, and he netted the ball a second time after ten minutes. Groby had the Blaby men at their mercy, and secured a corner, which was converted by G Brooks. G Bennett mad a pretty run, and obtained the fourth point. Then Blaby had a look in, and the outside right scored, but just before the whistle blew for half-time the home centre-forward put in a fine shot, which the visitor's custodian who unable to stop. Half-time more: Groby, five goals, Blaby, one.
Resuming Blaby made a fine rush down the field and looked like scoring, but were kept well at bay by the home backs. Rudkin playing a very correct game. Groby still had the best of the game, but only got through once, by F Wood. Groby are to be complimented on their brilliant victory. Rudkin, E Bennett, F Wood, Jordan and G Wod were the pick of the home XI, and outside right, left and centre played best for the visiting team.
Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 5 October 1899

#10 RATBY SWIFTS v MAKET HARBOROUGH CONGREGATIONALS

At Ratby. Result:

RATBY, four goals;
HARBOROUGH, two goals.

Leicester Daily Post -2 October 1899

#12 RE-PLAYED TIE – FIRST ROUND

ST ANDREW'S, eight goals;
WIGSTON UNITED, two goals

Leicester Daily Post – 9 October 1899

#14 ST MATTHEW'S v RATBY SWIFTS

These teams lined up on the St Matthew's ground, under the supervision of Mr Linthwater. The home side won the toss, and Dixon put the ball in motion. The home team made a strong run down the field, and Marple scored with a lightning volley within the minute. The home team then pressed severely, and Grudgings had a most anxious time. Dilly put in a beautiful shot, but Grudgings fisted away splendidly, and Moore cleared in grand form. Grudgings for the next ten minutes had some very tough work in store, but proved equal to all demands. Try as Ratby would, they could not open their account. A penalty was allowed the Saints, Taylr being the offender, but the shot was erratic. Ratby could not shake off the visiting forwards, who played with tact and determination, and League put in a fine shot, which Grudgings returned. Close on half-time Ratby raced away, but when in a fine position for shooting the whistle blew for right turn, the score reading: St Matthew's, one goal, Ratby, none. Resuming the Vicarage were soon the aggressive and gained a corner. Dilly directly afterwards finding the net in brilliant fashion. Marple placed a beauty but Grudgings responded and Ratby brightened up, but could not pierce their way through the backs. Man to man the Saints were decidedly the better team, and their passing at times was brilliant. After a severe tussle Simpson scored the third point, amidst rounds of applause. The visitors were undoubtedly outclassed and could not geta look in, while on the other hand the saints were credited with a fourth goal. the Swifts tried hard, but the Saints had the villagers well in hand, and they left the area after a well fought battle with a four nil victory.
Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 2 November 1899

#16 WHITWICK HOLY CROSS v MEASHAM WANDERERS

AT Whitwick. Result:

MEASHAM WANDERERS, two goals;
WHITWICK HOLY CROSS, none.

Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 11 January 1900

#18 CASTLE DONINGTON ST LUKE'S v LOUGHBOROUH ADULT SCHOOL

At Castle Donington. St Luke's kicked off with a strong wind behind them, but could make an impression on the Loughborough goal. The pressure was so severe that more than a dozen corners were taken, whilst Loughborough and not a solitary shot at goal. There was no score at the interval. In the second half the "Dons" played the rushing game, and were soon three goals ahead. Result:

CASTLE DONINGTON, three goals;
LOUGHBOROUGH, none.

Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 11 January 1900

#19 CASTLE DONINGTON v LOUGHBOROUH FOREST ROVERS

These clubs should have met at Castle Donington but, owing to the home club being unable to collect a team of eligible players, they scratched to the Rovers. The clubs met in the competition last year, the Rovers knocking out on protest.

Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 11 January 1900

#20 MELTON TOWN 2ND v MELTON VICTORIA

These local teams met on the All England Ground, Melton Mowbray, on Saturday. Teams:- Town: Geeson, goal; Cragg and Morris, backs; Goodacre, Lyles and Houghton, half-backs; Bentley, Paling, Lowden, Holden and Lowe, forwards. Victoria: Ewen, goal; Gamble and Eaers, backs; Bottom, Farrows and Warner, half-backs; Moorhouse, C Cragg, Smith, Halligan and Toone, forwards. The Town won the toss, and had the advantage of the slope. A strong wind blew across the ground, which greatly interfered with the play. The first aggressive movement was made by the Vics, Morris relieved, and the two retaliated. Returning, Moorhouse got down nicely on the right and centred, Smith shot, and Gleeson saved splendidly. Following some midfield play, the Town got away on the left, and Bentley and Paling each tried shots, the latter just missing. at half-time there was no score. On resuming Lowden was early conspicuous for a fine run on the left, but he shot wide. An alteration hereabouts took place in the Town's team, Cragg ging forward, and Bentley taking his place at back. A fruitless corner was gained by the Ton, and the shot by Paling went begging. The Town were now having decidedly the best of matters, but it was not until half an hour had elapsed that they gained a point, Lowe scoring with a low shot. The game now became very fast, but no further scoring took place. Result:

MELTON TOWN 2ND, one goal;
MELTON VICTORIA, none.

Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 11 January 1900

#22 SOUTH WIGSTON ALBION v ST MATTHEW'S

At Wigston. Result:

SOUTH WIGSTON, two goals;
ST MATTHEW'S, one goal.

Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 11 January 1900

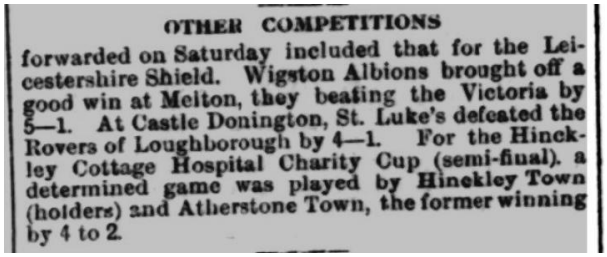
#23 STONEY STANTON v GROBY

At Stoney Stanton. Short time was played, the score at the abandonment bring:

GROBY, four goals;
STONEY STANTON, none

Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 11 January 1900

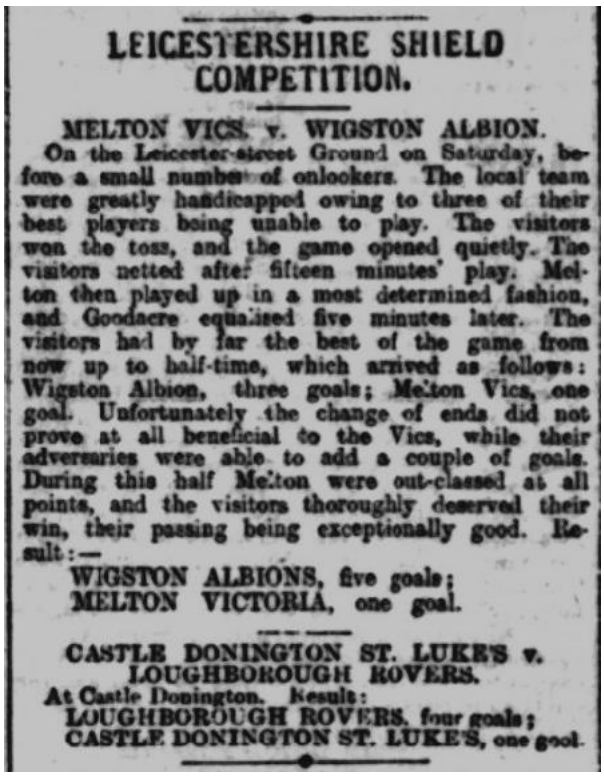
#25-26



OTHER COMPETITIONS

forwarded on Saturday included that for the Leicestershire Shield. Wigston Albions brought off a good win at Melton, they beating the Victoria by 5—1. At Castle Donington, St. Luke's defeated the Rovers of Loughborough by 4—1. For the Hinckley Cottage Hospital Charity Cup (semi-final). a determined game was played by Hinckley Town (holders) and Atherstone Town, the former winning by 4 to 2.

Midland Mail – 3 February 1900



LEICESTERSHIRE SHIELD COMPETITION.

MELTON VICS. v. WIGSTON ALBION.

On the Leicester-street Ground on Saturday, before a small number of onlookers. The local team were greatly handicapped owing to three of their best players being unable to play. The visitors won the toss, and the game opened quietly. The visitors netted after fifteen minutes' play. Melton then played up in a most determined fashion, and Goodacre equalised five minutes later. The visitors had by far the best of the game from now up to half-time, which arrived as follows: Wigston Albion, three goals; Melton Vics, one goal. Unfortunately the change of ends did not prove at all beneficial to the Vics, while their adversaries were able to add a couple of goals. During this half Melton were out-classed at all points, and the visitors thoroughly deserved their win, their passing being exceptionally good. Result:—

WIGSTON ALBIONS, five goals;
MELTON VICTORIA, one goal.

CASTLE DONINGTON ST. LUKE'S v. LOUGHBOROUGH ROVERS.

At Castle Donington. Result:
LOUGHBOROUGH ROVERS, four goals;
CASTLE DONINGTON ST. LUKE'S, one goal.

Leicester Daily Post – 29 January 1900

#30 LEICESTERSHIRE SHIELD
SEMI-FINAL
LOUGHBOROUGH FORET ROVERS v SOUTH WIGSTON ALBION

At last year, these teams met in the semi-final on the Athletic Ground, Loughborough. The match then resulted in a draw, and when it was re-played at Syston, the Rovers won by a goal to none, after two hours pay. Considerable interest was taken in the match, and the visitors had a good following, who were pretty confident of the ability of their players to pull the match off. The Rovers, on the other hand, were quite determined to reach the final again. Wigston won the toss, and kicked towards the railway end with the wind. Plat was at once fast and exciting. The Rovers had the best of the opening stages, and the Albion custodian soon had to defend his charge, which he did creditably on several occasions. The Albion worked their way down, and Norman twice shot over the bar. The Rovers defence was not up to the usual mark, and several dangerous attacks were made by Wigston, but the goal remained intact. Pepper got clean away for the rovers, but hesitated in shooting, and the chance was lost. After about half an hour the Albion attacked strongly again and their efforts were rewarded, a long sharp shot being put in which Holborough handled, but failed to stop. This rexxx the Rovers and Pepper again got clean through, and again made the mistake of keeping the ball too long, with the result that the goalkeeper took it almost off his toes. The Rovers, keeping up the pressure, the Albion goal withstood some strong attacks, Baker on one occasion breaking the side net with a warm shot. Half-time arrived with the score Wigston, 1; Rovers, none. The game resumed with snow falling heavily. Neither side could claim much advantage for a while, but the pace

eventually began to tell, and the Albion were the first to feel its effects. The Rovers slowly but surely began to get the weight of their opponent, and the Albions defence was sorely taxed. Bennett got through, and finished with a rattling shot, which just missed the upright. The Albion played a strong defensive game, but their efforts were doomed to fail, for, after twenty-five minutes' plat Clarke took advantage of a neat pass from Bennett, and with a good cross shot completely beat the Albion custodian, who made a god but ineffectual attempt to save, this being received with great enthusiasm. The Rovers played harder than ever, and after the goal had had some narrow escapes, Pepper put the ball through once more, the Albion appeared thoroughly done up, while the Rovers played very strongly. In the closing stages the Albions made a desperate effort but failed to beat the Rovers' defence, and the end came with the score:

FOREST ROVERS, two goals;
WIGSTON ALBION, one.

The Rovers team was W Holborough, goal; H L and W Smith, backs; H Barker, J Waldram, and C Walker, half-backs; J H Bennett, A Clarke, W Pepper, E Stevens, and J Baker, forwards.
Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 22 March 1900

#31 PACKINGON v GROBY ALBIONS

Played on the Field Head Ground, Markfield, on Saturday last under the superintendence of Mr. Carpenter. A large gate assembled, the partisans of each combination being confident. Groby won the toss, and tool advantage of the slope, also being materially helped by the wind. Fine play was displayed on both sides, Brools, Groby's full-back, being prominent. Even play was the order of the first 165 minutes. Then Groby rallied, and after a fine run, Jordan, Groby's centre-forward, tried the Packington goalkeeper, who fumbled the ball, thus giving the lead to the Albons. Packington played with much coolness, the centre forward seemed to pass his opponents at will, making rings round them when desired, the wing kept well up, the halves fed well, and the backs were all to be desired, and they were soon on level terms. Marshall, the Albion skipper, played his smarter football, but his men seemed below the mark. Midfield play ruled for a time, until Packington rallied and placed a second goal to their credit. This somewhat disheartened the Groby contingent, and their play fell off considerably, and continued until the whistle blew for right about turn, the score then standing: Packington, two; Groby, one. The game was continued under inclement weather, snow falling briskly, and Groby commenced with ten men, Wood at this time being absent. Packington now had the advantage of position, and soon credited themselves with a third point. Groby had a penalty, but it was badly taken, and they somewhat lost heart, but another penalty was in store for them, and this time F Bennett, by a splendid shot sent the leather home, the score standing at 3-2. Packington did not relish this and almost straight off the xxx took the ball down and passed it through the posts. Packington always appeared to have their opponents at their will, and with the useful lead of two goals steadied themselves. For the last 15 or 20 minutes play was moderately even, and nothing was added to either total. Groby played some exceedingly clever games in the South Leicestershire League competition, but it is only fair to give Packington the credit of being superior on this occasion. In the final Packington will meet the Loughborough team which defeated South Wigston. Result: Packington, four goals; Groby Albion, two goals.
Melton Mowbray Mercury and Oakham and Uppingham News – 22 March 1900

#32 LEICESTERSHIRE SHIELD FINAL
LOUGHBOROUGH FOREST ROVERS v. PACKINGTON

On the Castle Ground, Mountsorrel. There was a good "gate," including a large number from Loughborough, who were hoping to bring the Shield back with them. Packington were a much older and heavier lot than the Rovers, and appeared at first glance likely to carry off the trophy. The Rovers, however, were in fine form, as the result of consistent training, and they were determined to put the finishing touch on last year's performance. Mr E. A. Marson was the referee. Owing to the late arrival of Packington, the game was not commenced until ten minutes past four. The Rovers at once attacked strongly, and Baker got through, and opened the scoring with a splendid shot after 15 minutes play. Packington rallied a little after this early reverse, but they were soon, busy again defending. The Rovers' forwards showed nice combination, and after repeated attacks the Packington goal again fell, Stevens beating Sutton for a second time, within the first ten minutes. Play became more even for a time, Packington going in for long kicking and passing. German, at centre forward, worked hard, but was well looked after by Waldram. Going away again, the Rovers had hard lines in not increasing their score, Pepper shooting on to the bar, and a minute later the same player shot over when in a good position. Packington attacked, and held the sway for a time,

Holborough having to save from German and Granger, while several shots went wide. Eventually, a free to the Rovers relieved the pressure, and the Packington goal was again most determinedly attacked, Sutton saving hot shots from Bennett and Clarge in fine style, following which Stevens got hold again and despatched the ball safely into the net for the third goal. Even play followed. Baker had a good opening, but shot out, whilst at the other end Holborough saved a hot shot from German. Half time: Rovers, three; Packington, none. The second half went greatly in favour of the Rovers, who appeared to have their opponents well weighed in. The Packington goal was constantly the scene of exciting incidents, and the goalkeeper had a warm time of it. The whole of the defence played a hard game ; indeed, the undaunted manner in which the whole Packington team played was most commendable, considering the way in which the game was going. Offside spoiled, several of the Rovers' efforts, but eventually from a corner, well placed by Baker, Bennett headed a splendid goal, this making the score 4-0. Close on time Packington made a last effort to get through, but failed, although one shot from, Eaton, which deserved a better fate, went by the post, and time arrived with the Rovers winners by four goals to none. In presenting the Shield, Mr. Marson said that considering the importance of the match he had not officiated in a more gentlemanly game during the whole of his 15 years' experience, and he expressed the hope that if Loughborough could not hold the Shield another year Packington would win it. The team to bring the Shield to Loughborough for the first time was: W. Holborough, goal; H. L. and W. Smith, backs; H. Barker, J. Waldram, and C. Walker, half-backs; J. H. Bennett, A. Clarke, W. Pepper, E. Stevens, and J. Baker forwards. The Rovers have now two League matches to play.

Leicester Chronicle – 14 April 1900