## SOUTHERN LRAGUE.

LUTON TOWN V. MILLWALL

A DETERMINED STRUGGLE FOR SUPREMACY AND A "RECORD"

LUTON'S DEFEAT AND THE REFERENS RELATION THERETO.

What was appropriately termed" the battle of the League" came off on Saturday, when Luton played their first sugagement in the Southern League with their great rivats, Millerall Athletic. The match had been anticipated for weeks and eager had been the discussion of the chances of returns. After the access of Luton Plast

The match had been anticipated for weeks and cager had been the discussion of the chances of victory. After the success of Luton last January by 5-2, most people prophesied a close, stubbornly fought contest and this indeed proved to be the case. The day was dall and depressing, rain falling in the meraing, but the turk was in fairly good condition.

depressing, rain falling in the meraing, but the turt was in fairly good condition. Half-an-hour before the start, some thourands of spectators had assembled, and the grand stand, now enlarged to seat 1.000 on-lockers, was soon fully occupied. The visitors were accompanied by three or four hundred of their supporters, and the game must have been watched by over 5,000 people. Among those present were Mr. Dolin Gordon, president of the Millwall club, and treasurer of the League, Mr. W. Henderson, the club's secretary, and Mr. J. Oliver, of Tottenham fame, the donor of the championship skield. During the integral of waiting, the Red Cross Band played several excellent selections in front of the grand stand

Luton and Nicholson especially having a warm reception. How the Town secured the West Boomwich Albion back for the occasion, was narrated in detail in our last issue. Each side had its full strength, MoCrindle re-appearing for Luton after a fortnight's absence. The Millwall team, who seemed a litbe, powerful eleven in their military-looking attire, would have had Law in goal but for his being detailed by his duties at Borough-roud College. Soon after 5.30 the teams appeared on the field as follows:

Luton Town—Bee, goal; M. D. Nicholson and McEwen, backs; Watkins, McCrindle, and

Both teams were greated with enthusiarm,

Latta Zors.—pee, grait, m. D. Account and McEwen, backs; Watkins, McCrindle, and Howe, hall-backs; Gallacher and Finlayson, right; Galbraith, centre; Allen and Prentice, lett, forwards.

Affilical Atlatic—Walker, goal; Graham and Davies, backs; King, J. Matthews and H. Matthews, hall-backs; Jones and Wilson, right;

Davies, becks; King, J. Matthews and H. Matthews, half-backs; Jones and Wilson, right; Robertson, centre; McKennie and Geddox, left, forwards.

Before—Mr. N. Whittaker (Secretary of the Southern League):

Linemens—Meant. W. G. Wheeler (Luton)

and P. Kidd (Millwall).

the home team having won the toss, which, however, gave little advantage as there was no wind. Within a few minutes, Geddes secured and centred along the line but McEwen cleared the danger. Directly afterwards the first free-kick of the day was given against H. Matthewa, who fouled Finlayson. The home forwards then made headway and Galbraith beating his opponents, sent in a beautiful shot which bounged up Walker's body over the goal-net. The corner was well placed by Galiacher but Galbraith shot wide. Again the Reds attacked and from another corner, Graham mis-kloked, Walker CLEARING IN THE NICE OF TIME. A good attempt was made by Alien after which Goddes and Prentice in turn spell chances by getting ofiside. Every point in the game, which was very fast, was watched with the keenest interest. At last, the Millwall forwards made a determined rush on the left, Bee giving

It was about 20 minutes to 4, when, smid much excitement Robertson started for Millwall.

referer now began to give dissatisfaction to the home supporters. Gallacher was beily fouled but Mr. Whittaker failed to take action but directly atterwards J. Matthews was penalised for fouling Finlayson. Another piece of vigorous play followed, in which Galbraths and one of the Millwall halves were concerned.

THE REPHINE HOWED HIS EXCEPTION by throwing the ball up. Play was for a time in Luten's favour and from "bands," MnEwensont the ball wide of the mark. A few minutes where Howe unluckly basilied is home quarters.

a corner in effecting a splendid save from Goddes. From the kick, Plulayeon headed behind. The

was put in by Galbraith but Prentice miceed a long pass from blm. A five-kick against Gallacher for holding was not improved upon for histhews missed the post. The home

but Davies cent behind Some splendid work

forwards got down again and after a fine throw-in by Watkins, Prentice nestly scored for Luton from a scrimmage

AMID TREMENDOUS ENTEUSIASM

after some 15 minutes play. The cheering lasted until after the ball had been re-started when the Reds soon pressed, Gallacher sending in two good centres. The visitors managed to transfer operations and Geddes middling across the Luton goal gave Jones an opening, which he

failed to accept. On the home side, Howe, McCrindle and the right wing were now working finely. A foul against Nicholson for jumping to head the ball occasioned some surprise but J. Matthews landed the ball into the net untouched. Play was of a vigorous character and several

free kicks fell to each side, though Mr. Whitta-

ker's decisions were often of a questionable character. The rival teams put forth every effort to score and the play abounded in exciting incidents. A good shot from Geddes was fisted away by Bee and then Matthews sent up, McKenzie making an attempt, which the Luton captain cleared. The Millwall left made several spurts but were generally too well watched to be dangerous. The referee's decisions were now BOTH UNSATISFACTORY AND PECULIAE.

H. Matthews fouled Gallacher badly, but no

notice was taken by Mr. Whittaker, and again; when Howe was deliberately held by J. Matthews, a free-kick was given to Miliwall ! The height of absurdity was reached when McEwen was fondly encircled by Matthews' arms and another free-kick was awarded the visitors, the decision evoking loud outbursts of disapprobation from the crowd. Dispute these disheartening cocurrences, the Reds played gallantly

and Walker was called upon by Finlayson. The home defence was, however, in turn penetrated, Geddes shooting across goal is dangerous fashion. Hands for Luton transferred play for a time ; McEwen took the kick, Galbraith shooting wide. Just before time, the Millwall forwards once more rushed down and a miskick by Nichelson let in Wilson who headed in but Bee cleared well. At the interval, Luton led by I

goal to mil.

The second half opened with some fast play. Each goal-keeper was called upon by Goddes and Gallacher. A couple of forls against McKenzie and Jones produced nothing tangible Watkins shooting behind. The home forwards then made two determined cusets, Galbraith leading the attack spleudidly and Walker had to clear two hot shots. The referee, after

passing unnoticed a decided trip by Geddes, eventually pulled up Matthews for a bad foul on Allen amid the applause of the spectators. The visitors were now adopting the "long kick and rush " method with considerable effect, and entering the home quarters, forced the Reds back. For some reason a free-kick was given against McEwen, and J. Matthews taking the kick, terned over to his brother, who promptly landed the ball in the net. This smart piece of work which registered MILLWALL'S FIRST COAL

rather surprised the supporters of the home team. Inspirited by this success, the Dockers' right made a determined rush, Bes running out to clear. The ball was now heavy and slippery and a new one was procured, which Graham at first declined to accept, but withdrew his objection when Mr. Whittaker insisted on the change. The incident was notable, and its significance was not lost upon the crowd. The Luton captain tried a long shot, which went wide, and then Jones breaking away, Wilson

sent in a difficult attempt which Bee safely cleared, but McKenzie met the ball on its return and from a pass by Geddes put through a second time. The home goal-keeper was "floored" before he could get at the leather, but his appeal for a foul was disregarded. Twenty minutes had clapsed when the Dockers were thus put ahead, and the next decision of the referee A GLARING MISTAKE. must have convinced them that they had little fear of losing their lead. The ball was kicked

on to Robertson's hand by McEwen in a most palpable fashion but Mr. Whittaker gave the free-kick against Luton! This was enough to dishearten any team, and when a goal-kick was awarded Millwall when Geddes deliberately fouled near his own corner-flag, the Reds for a time seemed to relax their efforts and almost give up trying. Bee effected two grand saves but ranning out of goal after clearing failed to get back in time to prevent Geddes scoring a

third point. Only two miputes afterwards J. Matthews, with a low, hard shot notched Millwall's fourth goal, to the Lutonians' evident surprise and the frantic delight of the visitors. Undaunted by these reverses, the Rede persevered and during the last twenty minutes had the best of matters. From a contre by Gallacher, Walker cleared a hot shot from Galbraith, and then Prentice narrowly missed scoring. Another gallant attempt was made by

Galbraith and soon afterwards Finlayson scored

Luton's second goal with

THE FINEST SHOT OF THE DAY Spectators and players both now took heart and the Reds pegged away at the Millwall defence. A corner was well taken by Prentice, but Galbraith headed over. Then, amid much excitement. Allen just failed to beat Watker. but directly after from a centre by Prentice Galbraith registered Luton's third point with a nest over-head shot, his well-carned success eliciting loud cheers, which, however, had

eliciting loud chaers, which, however, had hardly died away before Mr. Whittaker blew his whistle for "time," prematurely by several minutes, at least. Laton thus suffered defeat by 4 goals to 3. There was come "booing" by some youngsters at the finish, but the referee was not molested in any way. Tortball

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LUTON'S DEPEAT AND THE REPRESE'S

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The match had been authorpated for weeks assumed had been the fillennature of the channes of rictory. After the amount of Lichel last James; by NC, most people producted a class establorate; rought sentent and this indeed provided to the control of the control

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of sportators had assembled, and the greated new enlarged to anti-1500 colocitors was seen fully accepted. The visitors was accompanied by three or four handred of the supporters, each the game bund have because the full colocity, present new Mr. Jolic Gorden, presentant of

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Later Three-Bee, real; M. D. Nicholson as M. Byrn, hash: Watkins, McCriedle, as Howe, half-beder; Gellacher and Finskynn right; Galbrath, tendre; Allen and Frantic left, forwards: Hilberth Athlete-Walter, god; Graham as Darken hard; Nicer, 1901; Graham as Darken hard; Nicer, 1901; Graham as

Davies, beets; Klog. J. Hattiever, and H. Stattiever, built-maker; John and Wilson, right Robottom, occier; J. Kennis and Godfan, left forwards.

Bijver-Mr. N. Whitaker (Sorretary of the Southern Length).

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and F. Kindi (Millwall). It was shown in a fine was the Collection of the Collection

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