

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

LUTON V. CHATHAM.

A VICTORY POORLY WON.—THE LUTON FORWARDS IN WRETCHED SHOOTING FORM.

The Kentishmen paid their second visit to Luton on Saturday with the memory of a 5 goals to nil defeat from the Reds on their first appearance here last March. The recollection of this easy triumph made most Lutonians perfectly confident of more or less repeating the performance at this second time of asking. Unfortunately, the home side lacked two of their best forwards, Prentice and Gallacher, the former having twisted his knee at practice during the week, while the crack right-winger's ankle being again troublesome, necessitated a further rest. Brown and Allen were called upon to fill the vacancies, and Nicholson once more gave his services at back. In the Chatham team, the only absentee of importance was McGregor, from the forward ranks. The day was beautifully fine, but owing to the recent heavy rains, the ground was heavy. The Volunteer Brass Band played several selections during the afternoon. About 3,000 constituted the "gate," when the players took up their positions as follows:—

Luton:—Bee, goal; M. D. Nicholson and McEwen, backs; Watkins, McGrindle (capt.), and Howe, half-backs; Brown and Finlayson, right; Galbraith, centre; Allen and Dimmock left, forwards.

Chatham:—Jones, goal; Robertson and Brockwell, backs; Fletcher, Brisley, and Lewis (capt.), half-backs; Humphrey and Eufield, right; Quarriington, centre; Guthrie and Stanford, left, forwards.

Referee:—Mr. A. R. Bourke, R.A. *Linesmen*: Messrs. C. Boxall and G. Horn.

Chatham won the toss, but strangely enough, Lewis chose to face the sun and at about 20 minutes to three, Galbraith kicked off. After a few exchanges, Nicholson arrived on the field, having been delayed by the London train, and was greeted with cheers. The first incident was a foul against Qearrington, but from the kick, McEwen landed the ball in the net untouched in transit, nothing counting. Another free-kick for the same reason against Brisley threatened danger, but Watkins shot wide. A couple of fine throws-in by Fletcher enabled Chatham to enter home territory, but Galbraith cleared, and Brown ran down, only to be pulled up for offside. Dimmock now showed up with a clever centre across goal, but the other forwards missed it. So far, the greater portion of

THE GAME WAS IN LUTON'S FAVOUR.

Operations were transferred to the home quarters for a short while, Watkins being penalised for a foul which Brisley placed behind. Pressure was quickly resumed, "Connie" trying a grand shot which almost shaved the goal-post. McCrindle became prominent in the attack, Brisley and Robertson distinguishing themselves on the other side in defence. Several exciting assaults were made on the Chatham goal, Jones saving twice in succession, while Bee got rid of a hot shot from Fletcher in clever style. Then Latoc came down with a rush, and Dimmock centreing well, Brown put through the first goal, Allen charging Jones off the ball. Luton's first success came after 18 minutes' play and was loudly cheered. On re-starting, the Reds attacked with renewed vigour, and both Allen and Dimmock narrowly escaped bringing about the

DOWNFALL OF THE CHATHAM CITADEL.

The ball had only been cleared a moment, when McCrindle returned into goal mouth, and Dimmock shot hard, Jones saving with difficulty. The visiting custodian was kept constantly on the alert, a fine long attempt from Watkins nearly beating him. So hard pressed were the Chatham backs, that Robertson had to concede a corner, the first of the day. Despite some wonderfully tricky work by Galbraith, the ball was still kept out, though from a centre by Dimmock, Brisley gave another corner. Strenuous efforts made by McCrindle and Watkins proved unavailing. Fouls were given against Nicholson and Galbraith, and the game became of a rather forcible nature, the man generally receiving

MORE ATTENTION THAN THE BALL.

The free-kicks relieved pressure for a space, but Luton were soon on goal-getting bent. A hard shot from Allen almost brought about the longed-for result, Jones all but dropping the ball over the line. In turn, Brisley gave Boe a good handful, this being the home custodian's second clearance up to the interval. A couple of corners, one of which Jones gave from a clinking shot from Dimmock, failed to improve Luton's position, and an unpleasant incident now occurred, Lewis striking Galbraith across the face with

A RESOUNDING SMACK,

which was heard all over the field. Mr. Bourke properly gave a foul against the Chatham captain. Nicholson placed the kick nicely, and Brown sending in, Allen breasted the leather through after an exciting scrimmage. Half-time was called directly afterwards, Luton then leading by 2 goals to nil.

During the interval, Mr. Bourke examined the players' boots at the Chatham captain's suggestion, but found no infringement of the rules. Immediately on restarting, Luton got away with a rush, and Dimmock centred across, Brown heading through. "Roland" was, however, palpably off-side, and nothing was allowed. Chatham retaliated, and Quarrington caused Boe to bring off a smart save. Receiving from Dimmock once more, Brown heading into the side of the net, being again given off-side. Still continuing in the Kentishmen's quarters, Luton forced a brace of corners. Nothing came of them, however, except that Fiolayson altogether missed the mark. Eosfield got in a run, but was pulled up by McEwen, the Chatham forward sustaining a slight injury to his face during the tussle which necessitated a short stoppage.

but try how they would, the home forwards could not score, Jones and the backs clearing repeatedly. From a centre by Brown, Allen appeared to have scored, but had instead grazed the bar. Howe at this point came to the fore with some brilliant tackling, and Finlayson next tried his luck, Robertson heading away in the nick of time, while Fletcher cleared from a corner. The crowd were by this time becoming disgusted with the failure of their side to score, and Quarrington was cheered on heading over from Guthrie. Shortly afterwards Stanford got clear, and centred finely across goal,

ENFIELD SCORING FOR CHATHAM

amid the loud applause of the crowd after half an hour's play. This success greatly inspired the visitors, who, encouraged by the shouts of the crowd, made several attempts to draw level, afterwards gaining their first and only corner. Nicholson saved a dangerous attack from a long throw-in by Fletcher, while Humphrey next shot upon the top of the net, to the great relief of the home crowd. Just before the finish, McCrindle sending in, Brown shot into goal, but Allen, when off-side, unhappily touched the ball as it was going through, and consequently Mr. Bourke disallowed any score. An unsatisfactory game then ended — Luton 2 goals; Chatham 1.