

FOOTBALL.

LUTON AND THE LEAGUE.

MORE POINTS AT SWINDON.

When the Swindon players visited Luton a month ago in the Southern League the victory of the home-sters by two to none was apologised for in some quarters. On Saturday, however, the "reds" placed their superiority beyond dispute with a win by three to none. The Lutonians left home at about 9 o'clock and they had a long, wearisome journey before them. The weather conditions were not of the best, rain and wind rendering things uncomfortable for the players. The game was witnessed by a good number of spectators, and the encounter was rendered additionally interesting by the fact that a victory was exceptionally important to both sides—to Luton, because a win would place them safely in the second place on the League; to Swindon, because a defeat would make their position as wooden-spoonists almost a certainty.

The Lutonians were unfortunate enough to lose the toss, which made it requisite for them to face the wind. They had their full team engaged, whereas there were some absentees from the home ranks, these including Reynolds (who had been injured at Southampton), Done, Kemp, Hobson and Shaw. The knight of the whistle was Mr. E. G. Macdonald, and the linesmen were Messrs. Williams and Worboys, while the teams were constituted as follows:—

Swindon Town: Goal, C. Williams; backs, A. Noble and W. Richardson; half-backs, W. Lawless, A. Dibsdaile, and A. Andrews; forwards, W. Jerrom, J. Wallman, R. L. Jones, J. Hayward, and J. Ross.

Luton Town: Goal, E. Bee; backs, J. McCartney and J. McEwen; half-backs, J. Watkins, R. McCrindle, and A. Collins; forwards, W. Gallacher and J. Finlayson (right), H. Galbraith (centre), W. Prentice and J. Jack (left).

The first half saw matters in favour of Swindon, though the Luton forwards occasionally took a trip to the other end. The home front rank shot in very erratic fashion, and though the rear-guard of the Lutonians had all their work cut out at times to avoid a score they managed to reach the interval without their colours having been lowered. Lawless and Walman were injured in this half, and had to retire for a time. Half-time:

Luton, none; Swindon, none.

The second half opened in promising fashion for the visitors, who now had the advantage of the wind. This moiety was not very old when Williams only partially cleared a long shot and Galbraith, pouncing on the ball very cleverly, sent it into the net. Lawless was once more hurt, and he had to be carried off the field. Later on one of the Luton quintette sent in a good shot, and Ross headed into the net. Towards the end two more notches were obtained, though one was disallowed on the ground of off-side. The final score was thus:

Luton, three; Swindon, none.

The game was not by any means a great one. The Luton forwards played a good game, and the fact that no goal was scored by Swindon speaks volumes for the sturdiness of the visitors' defence. Bee was in excellent form in goal. The Swindon men tried hard, though without success. The Swindon spectators did not, apparently, relish the reverse which their favourites sustained, for at the end several of the Luton men were treated disgracefully. It is likely that more will be heard of the affair.