



SECOND LEAGUE.

LUTON v. GAINSBOROUGH TRINITY.

A DECISIVE VICTORY.

About 1,500 spectators assembled round the Bury Park enclosure on Saturday to see the local "pros." meet the Gainsborough Trinity eleven. The turf was in a fearfully saturated condition, but deemed good enough for play by the referee (Mr. F. S. Walford, Middlesex). Teams were:—

Luton:—Perkins; Williams and Moore; C. Ford, Sharp, and Crump; Brock, McInnes, Kemplay, Birch, and Durrant.

Gainsborough:—Raynor; Bayley and Pumfrey; Hall, T. Morris, and H. Munro; A. Foxall, Walters, Wigmore, Scott, and Fenton.

Linesmen:—Messrs. W. Sumpter (Sandiacre) and W. R. King (Nottingham).

It is hardly necessary to say that McInnes won the toss, though such was the case, and Tommy was the first to put some life into the play by an exhibition of the short passing game with Brock. This resulted in an assault on the visitors' goal. Durrant had two fine centres in as many minutes, but Raynor relieved by touching the latter over the bar. The flag kick was fruitless, though Durrant got in a swift shot at goal, the ball cannoning off the back.

Gainsborough travelled towards Perkins, but failed to stay. Brock took a judicious pass from Ford, and made a speedy descent down the line. After getting through the defence he passed to McInnes, whose shot was repulsed. Durrant got the ball after the re-bounce, and Raynor met his return with qualified success, so that Brock was able to sprint forward and cleverly give Luton the lead within 10 minutes from the start.

The spectators were loud in their applause of this neat bit of work. Brock was playing in fine style, centreing with judgment at the right moment, and giving Raynor a hot time generally. Twice was the visitors' custodian brought to his knees. Moore was giving anything but a good exhibition. Twice in succession he got into difficulties, and Williams had to cross over to avert disaster.

Birch wrung the hearts of the spectators in a very cruel manner. With Kemplay to aid him he received a pass from the wing, and stood in front of goal with only the goal-keeper to defeat. Instead of passing to Kemplay or shooting across the goal, he feebly kicked the ball at Raynor, who of course promptly cleared. At the other end Fenton had a similar opening and shot at the clouds, so things were somewhat balanced. The goal kick by Perkins was a modest effort, and the ball had hardly touched the turf before Wigmore obtained possession and threading his way through the Luton backs, equalised the score.

But the game did not preserve its open character for long. Brock picked the ball out of a scrimmage in front of goal after McInnes and others had tried their luck, and beat Raynor for the second time. An earnest appeal was made to the referee for the goal to be disallowed for offside but Mr. Walford pointed to mid-field, and play began again. The Trinitarians exhibited considerable feeling over the decision. Half-time came when Kemplay had broken through the defence making for an open goal—which he didn't reach before the whistle sounded.

LUTON		2 goals
GAINSBOROUGH	..	1 goal

lethargy until Wigmore had again made the score equal. Another rush was made by Moore, who put up the ball judiciously. Brock shot magnificently, striking the bar. Kemplay ran in and converted before the goal-keeper could recover. Luton thus re-gained the lead once more. Not long afterwards Brock centred again and Kemplay added the fourth goal, placing the final issue beyond dispute. From this point it was only a question whether Luton would pile on the agony, but time expired with the score reading as follows :—

LUTON		4 goals
GAINSBOROUGH	..	2 ,,