

LUTON v. BURTON SWIFTS.

AN EASY VICTORY.

Last year, Luton only took a solitary point from the Burton men, who made a draw here and won at Beeropolis by 2-1. This season, the Swifts made amends, for Luton drew at Burton last Boxing day, and on Easter Monday won easily by 3 goals to nil. There was a large holiday crowd of about 2,500 present, and the afternoon was beautifully fine. Mr. Walford, of London, was referee, with the following teams:—

Luton: G. H. Smith; Dow and Williams; Sharp, Ralley, and Crump; Durrant, Brock, Kemplay, W. Ford and Ekins.

Burton Swifts: Gray; Lowe and Kirkland; Waterson, Mainman, and Campbell; Hamilton, Burton, Lloyd, Griffiths and Lavery.

Winning the toss, Luton played with wind and sun in their favour. Within 5 minutes, Kemplay forced a corner off the Burton goal-keeper and from Durrant's place-kick, Ekins headed on to W. Ford, who opened the scoring with a smart shot. The visitors' right wing was most dangerous all through the game, and Dow cleared finely one of their rushes. Ekins who was rather unfairly worried by Waterson, shot just over the bar, and Gray steered overhead a beauty from Durrant. The corner produced nothing, but, Brock being fouled, Ford headed close in. Luton made another dashing onset, and after saving twice, the Burton goal-keeper got badly "winded." From Crump's pass, Brock was running right through, but Gray robbed him very cleverly.

About 5 minutes before the interval, Kemplay neatly dodged Kirkland and scored No. 2. In the Luton goal, Smith had a very easy task, and now kicked out for the first time. Luton went back to Burton territory, and kept up a hot pressure. Brock over-ran the ball, just as he seemed certain to score, while Gray yielded two corners in succession. Ekins showed up with a good attempt, and struck the outside of the net. A sprint by Lloyd was well checked by Dow, and half-time arrived with the score:

LUTON...	...	...	...	2
BURTON	...	...	...	0

With the wind in their favour, the visitors had more of the play in the second half, and for a long time Luton relaxed their efforts, especially neglecting to "mark" opponents. Williams covered a bad mis-kick by Dow, and Durrant had to retire a few minutes owing to injury. The Luton goal-keeper had now more chances of displaying his ability. Smith fisted out well and gave a corner from a foul, placed by Lowe. When Burton seemed very near scoring, Smith came to the rescue in good style, and Lavery shot over. Some 20 minutes had passed, when Luton transferred play from their own quarters and Crump sent up well, Brock heading through the third goal from W. Ford's centre. Ekins next put in a terrific shot with such force as to "floor" Lowe, who attempted to stop it. After an unsuccessful incursion by the Burton right, Brock and Kemplay made a smart rush on Gray's charge, but missed scoring a certain goal through a misunderstanding, which enabled Gray to clear. Just on time, Smith made a good save under the cross-bar, and Luton were returned victors as under:—

LUTON...	...	...	...	3 goals
BURTON	...	...	...	0

NOTES.

It was a good, but not brilliant game, and was very well contested. Brock was full of energy among the Luton forwards and Crump was conspicuous at half, while Ralley did a lot of plodding useful work. In the second half, Smith's abilities in goal were fairly tested, and he came out of the ordeal with credit.