

FOOTBALL.

LUTON v. BRISTOL CITY.

A NARROW WIN FOR THE CITY.

On Saturday the Luton team visited Bristol to play the return match in the Southern League. It was not expected that they would do other than lose, seeing that Lindsay, Holdstock and Blessington were absent, but to lose only by a goal was justly regarded as a good performance. The game was witnessed by about 7,000 spectators. The Luton team was as follows:—Ord; Clifford and McCurdy; Williams, Farr and Garrett; Brown and F. Hawkes, Barker, Saxton and Durrant.

Bristol won the toss; but this brought them no advantage. The City men, following a sturdy assault by the Lutonians, made several dangerous rushes in the first few minutes and narrowly escaped scoring, Ord saving well. The attack on the Luton goal was maintained with great persistency by the home forwards; but their efforts to score were repeatedly frustrated by the fine goalkeeping by Ord. From a pass by Michael Wilson sent in a beauty, which Ord dealt with successfully. The play was now transferred to the other end, and, Brown securing the ball, took a shot at goal, but with no useful result. The Luton forwards had not yet done anything of note, and made simply no headway. Soon after Saxton injured his arm and was compelled to retire, though he did not finally give up until the second half had commenced. When half-time arrived the position of affairs was thus:

BRISTOL, 0; LUTON, 0.

On the resumption the Luton forwards went off smartly and for a time the ball was kept in the home half. Luton were now playing with only 10 men, Saxton being unable to continue play. The wingmen on the home side were now getting dangerous, and Ord several times effected admirable saves, good support being afforded him by the backs. So the game went on. Much to the relief of the spectators, the long-looked-for goal did come. From a pass by Whelen, Geddes (who was lying off-side near the corner flag) sent the ball on to Stevenson, who found the net with a beauty. Further shots from Geddes and Wilson failed to score, and although the leaders made strenuous efforts to increase their total there were no more goals and the Lutonians retired beaten, the scores being:—

BRISTOL CITY, 1; LUTON, 0.