

FOOTBALL.

LUTON TOWN v. SWINDON.

VICTORY FOR LUTON.

On Saturday last the Lutonians played their return Southern League match with Swindon, when they succeeded in reversing the defeat, which they had sustained at the Wiltshire town in September—curiously enough by the same margin, 2—1. The day was stormy and, in consequence, there was only a moderate attendance of spectators. The sides were as follows:—

Luton: Ord; White and McCurdy; Clifford, Cox and Williams; Durrant, Blessington, Gray, Tierney and Saxton.

Swindon: Menham; Ritchie and Stephenson; Richardson, Downie and McEleny; Brown, Davies, Kirton, Logan and Oakley.

The referee was Mr. J. Stark; and the linesmen were Messrs. J. Foster and A. O'Donnell.

The homesters won the toss and played against the wind. The opening operations ruled in favour of the locals, and, after about five minutes' play, Tierney succeeded in scoring. Maintaining the pressure the homesters forced an abortive corner, and later on Durrant missed with a good left-foot shot. Next Swindon got down and sent over. Tierney was responsible for a brilliant shot, following which Luton again attacked and very nearly scored. The home spectators had been on good terms with themselves, but there was a demonstration against the referee when Kirton broke away and sent past Ord, an appeal against the goal on the score of off-side being overruled. Stimulated by the success, the Swindon forwards put in some good work and, following a run, got so near to the home goal as to be able to shoot; their efforts were unsuccessful, however. Saxton distinguished himself by sending in splendidly, and Durrant failed to score after Tierney had tried hard. The other point of interest, prior to the interval, was a capital shot by the home inside-left. At half-time the scores were:—

LUTON, 1; SWINDON, 1.

In the second half play ruled very slow and the display by the home contingent was very unsatisfactory.

The forwards were not by any means at their best, their efforts being disjointed. The defence, too, was frequently beaten in mid-field, and, more than once, it was only the alertness of Ord that averted the downfall. Early in this period a beautiful shot from Durrant was well saved ; and, later on, after a corner kick had been well placed, Gray put on the second goal for Luton. This was all the scoring and an exceedingly unsatisfactory game terminated in a narrow win for Luton with these totals :—

LUTON, 2 ; SWINDON, 1.