

FOOTBALL.

LUTONIANS AT GRAVESEND.

A DRAWN GAME.

On Saturday the Luton team visited Gravesend in order to fulfil their return engagement with the "shrimpers." The outcome of the first match at Luton had been a win for the home side by 5—2 and, inasmuch as the "blues" have been going pretty strongly of late, it was anticipated that they would find it possible to win away from home. These expectations, however, were not realised and the contest produced nothing more acceptable than a draw of two all.

There was a very fair crowd and the weather was brilliant, while the ground was in capital condition. The Lutonians were without the services of Clifford and Holdstock, these players being replaced by Hawkes and White.

The teams were as follows :—

Gravesend : Hamilton ; Tyler and Lockie ; M'Avoy, Bigden and Parkinson ; Mann, Pugh, Madden, Rickus and Penney.

Luton : Ord ; Street and Lindsay ; F. Hawkes, White and Williams ; Durrant and Blessington, Barker, Tierney and Brown.

Referee, Mr. C. Platt (Clapton).

Luton lost the toss and started operations. Gravesend were first to press, and, following a capital run by Penney, Madden shot hard, Ord only just managing to save. The Luton front string men next exhibited fine form, Blessington and Brown being conspicuous. The latter became responsible for a long shot which gave Hamilton considerable trouble. When the game had been in progress something over 10 minutes a free-kick was awarded to the home side for a foul. This was taken by Lockie and the ball found its way to Pugh, who succeeded in lowering Ord's colours with a first-rate shot. The leaders maintained the pressure for a time ; but later on the visitors gave the home defence considerable trouble, and Hamilton was compelled to bestir himself on more than one occasion. Despite the efforts on both sides, however, there was no further scoring before the interval, when the relative positions were :

GRAVESEND, 1 ; LUTON, 0.

After the interval the Lutonians showed improved style and it was not long before they were affording the home defenders some anxiety in the neighbourhood of goal. Only a few minutes had elapsed from the re-start when Barker shot hard and McAvoy, in attempting to clear, sent the ball into his own goal, and so equalised the scores. Later on a first-rate chance was missed by Tierney, who had the goal at his mercy. The lead was presented to Luton by Blessington, who received a good pass from Brown and the "blues" maintained their advantage until a few minutes before the close. Mann then got away in good style and wound up a first-rate run by scoring cleverly. The outcome, therefore, was a draw with these totals :

LUTON, 2 ; GRAVESEND, 2.